# Daily Report

# Latin America

FBIS-LAT-93-014
Monday
25 January 1993

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## Latin America

FBIS-LAT-93-014

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## Cuba

### Fidel Castro, Politburo Members Nominated to ANPP

*FL2401225393 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2030 GMT 24 Jan 93*

[Text] On 24 January, the Assembly of the People's Government of Santiago de Cuba Municipality nominated Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz as a deputy to the National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP]. The nomination of Army General Raul Castro was also approved during the delegates' assembly in the historic Segundo Frente Municipality. The two nominations provoked an outburst of jubilation throughout the province. The Santiago de Cuba delegates also approved the nominations of Politburo members Esteban Lazo, Juan Almeida, Maria de los Angeles Garcia, and Jose Ramon Balaguer as [ANPP] deputies.

It was reported that the rest of the municipalities in Santiago de Cuba Province had concluded their sessions and that 58 [ANPP] deputy candidates and 101 provincial assembly delegate candidates were selected.

### Alarcon on Clinton, Naval Maneuvers, Puerto Rico

*FL2201222193 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2032 GMT 22 Jan 93*

[Text] Foreign Minister Ricardo Alarcon, who is also a Politburo member, stated today at a news conference that the coming third summit of Ibero-American heads of state could be a decisive step in achieving integration. He added that the Madrid summit left some specific actions still to be done, and it is hoped that the meeting in Salvador de Bahia, Brazil, will yield more positive results.

Asked about the foreign policy President Clinton may follow regarding Cuba, Alarcon said it was premature to give an opinion, since the entire U.S. cabinet has not even been formed yet. The foreign minister stressed that what is clear is that if Washington continues the same mistaken and illegitimate policy towards Cuba, our people will continue to be willing to resist as they have done during the preceding administrations.

At his news conference, Ricardo Alarcon stated that Cuba's relations with the former socialist countries in Central Europe were not and are not now homogeneous, since their levels and nuances are not the same. He added that he hoped that relations with those countries will be normal.

Asked whether there was some political significance in the Cuban Revolutionary Navy's current maneuvers, the foreign minister explained that these maneuvers were taking place in Cuban waters, in contrast to those of other countries, which take place outside their own limits. Alarcon added that if there is any message in them, it is that we continue to prepare ourselves to face any foreign attack by our enemies.

With respect to the case of Puerto Rico, the foreign minister said Cuba and Venezuela have supported the cause of the Puerto Rican people in the Decolonization Commission, and this year the case will be brought up again.

### Court Sentences Five U.S. Drug Traffickers

*PA2301182193 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 1300 GMT 23 Jan 93*

[Text] Five U.S. residents, four of Cuban origin and one U.S. citizen, were given sentences ranging from seven to 20 years in prison by the Ciego de Avila Provincial Court in Cuba for their involvement in drug trafficking, possession of drugs and illegal entry into the national territory.

The five individuals were arrested by Cuban authorities on 17 April 1992 in northern Ciego de Avila Province after entering Cuban territorial waters while being pursued by a U.S. helicopter.

The criminals had picked up cocaine bales dropped by an airplane near the Bahamas but threw them back in the water when the U.S. helicopter showed up.

Prosecutor Manuel Prieto used information and statements on the incident provided through diplomatic channels by U.S. drug authorities.

The prosecutor said the individuals committed crimes that are severely punished under existing Cuban laws.

The court sentenced Maximo Moran to 20 years in prison; Daniel de la Torre to 18 years; Silvia Ivon Santana to eight years; Nieves de la Caridad Diaz to nine; and Manuel Portillo to seven years.

### Ambassador Presents Credentials in Kazakhstan

*FL2301024893 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Jan 93*

[Text] This afternoon in Alma Ata, the capital of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Rogelio Montenegro presented his credentials as the Cuban ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to that Central Asiatic country, which was formerly part of the Soviet Union. Kazakh Vice President Yerik Asanbayev accepted Montenegro's credentials. The vice president then expressed the need to restore and develop the economic, trade, and cultural ties that had historically existed between the two countries.

In turn, Montenegro stated that as the first Cuban ambassador to the new nation of Kazakhstan, he wanted to contribute to closer ties between Alma Ata and Havana. Montenegro mentioned how previously Cuba had received important Kazakh products and sent sugar and citrus fruit, among other products, to Kazakhstan. Montenegro also stated that [words indistinct].

During their talk, the Kazakh vice president expressed interest in the status of relations between our country and the United States, concerning a future change in these relations, in view of the new administration's

taking office. In this regard, Montenegro explained that Cubans do not have great hopes about U.S. policy, but in any case there could not be a position worse than Bush's. The Cuban ambassador to Kazakhstan recalled our country's recent diplomatic success at the United Nations when, for the first time, the United States was condemned for its embargo against Cuba.

Montenegro's accreditation and his talk with Yerik Asanbayev were extensively reported in the local media. On 25 January, the Cuban representative will begin the customary meetings with Kazakh officials. Montenegro has also been the Cuban ambassador to the Russian Federation since October 1992. Kazakh is in the middle of the Euroasiatic continent and has borders with Russia, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgystan, and China. It has rich reserves [words indistinct] of ferrous and nonferrous minerals [words indistinct] Kazakhstan is one of the four former Soviet republics that has nuclear weapons.

### Politburo Memebers' Activities 14 - 22 Jan

*FL2301010693*

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of fileworthy reports on the activities of members of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba carried on Havana radio and television in Spanish between 14 January and 22 January.

Julian Rizo is touring the Turquino Plan areas in the Escambray Mountains. Alfredo Jordan, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba of Las Tunas Province, is participating in ceremonies in rural communities to observe the formation of the people's councils. At a ceremony in El Nispero, Jordan stressed the importance of obtaining high mass participation in solving local difficulties and in supporting the social and economic programs of the provincial organizations. [Radio Rebelde Spanish 1000 GMT 14 Jan]

Division General Leopoldo Cintra Frias attended the ceremony marking the start of the training year in the Western Army, which was held at Capitan San Luis Stadium in Pinar del Rio. [Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks Spanish 0100 GMT 18 Jan]

Julian Rizo Alvarez attended a provincial-level meeting of the Cuban Association of Agricultural and Forestry Technicians [Asociacion Cubana de Tecnicos Agricolas y Forestales] in Matanzas. [Radio Rebelde Spanish 1000 GMT 18 Jan]

Esteban Lazo Hernandez chaired a ceremony honoring members of Battalion 311 of the Youth Labor Army for their outstanding work in the Turquino Plan in Segundo Frente Municipality, Santiago de Cuba Province. [Cuba Vision Network Spanish 2320 GMT 19 Jan]

Pedro Ross presented the Labor Feat banner to the Santiago de Cuba Medical Biophysics Center. Esteban Lazo also gave awards to science researchers at the same event. [Radio Progreso Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Jan]

Alfredo Jordan, at a ceremony at Construction and Assembly Brigade No. 1, congratulated workers of the Las Tunas Ministry of Construction Enterprise for exceeding their 1992 production plans. [Radio Reloj Spanish 2104 GMT 22 Jan]

### Juan Escalona Reguera Arrives in Bolivia

*FL2101025793 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 21 Jan 93*

[Text] Today Cuban National Assembly President Juan Escalona Reguera arrived in La Paz, Bolivia, where he received a warm welcome from representatives of different political and mass movements. Upon his arrival, Escalona expressed his appreciation for the welcome he had been given and greeted the Bolivian people. He also highlighted the support given by different political figures in Bolivia.

The president of the Cuban legislature will remain in Bolivia until 24 January at the invitation of his Bolivian colleagues to participate in the founding of the Bolivia-Cuba Parliamentary League, whose president, Foreign Minister Guillermo Bedregal [title as heard], met Escalona upon his arrival. Bedregal, a Bolivian opposition deputy, praised the visitor and highlighted his revolutionary background. He also affirmed that the Bolivian Congress upholds the values that Cuba is defending by fighting for the dignity of Latin America.

After being declared an illustrious guest of La Paz Municipality, the president of the Cuban legislature stated: Rest assured that Cuba will never let Latin America down. Juan Escalona Reguera said that he accepted the honor with the conviction that the honor was directed towards the Cuban people.

### Meets With Paz Zamora

*FL2301023493 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Jan 93*

[Text] Bolivian President Jaime Paz Zamora met today with Cuban National Assembly President Juan Escalona Reguera, with whom he exchanged impressions for more than one hour. The meeting was originally scheduled to be a simple protocolary greeting, but it became a meeting which Escalona described as very affectionate and cordial. Escalona said: This was as I expected, because the Bolivian president is a long-time friend of our country.

During their meeting, the Bolivian president and the Cuban official talked about the difficulties their respective countries are experiencing.

### Corrieri Greets Uruguayan, Argentine Citizens

*FL2401205293 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 23 Jan 93*

[Excerpts] More than 50 Uruguayan citizens carrying a banner which read "Uruguay Side by Side With Cuba" and waving Cuban and Uruguayan flags landed today in

Cuba. They brought a donation of 5 tons of powdered milk, school supplies, and other items. This group consists of political, labor, and Montevideo Municipality leaders, and teachers, students, and businessmen, among others. [passage omitted]

The Argentine solidarity group "Ciao, Embargo" also arrived on this flight with donations for Cuba and particularly for Camaguey Province. The two groups were greeted at the airport by Sergio Corrieri, the president of the Cuban Institute of Friendship with Peoples.

## Dominican Republic

### * Human Rights: Persons Jailed Without Trial

*93CA0045A Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 26 Oct 92 pp 1, 14*

[Article by Carmen Carvajal]

[Text] Dr. Efrain Reyes Duluc, attorney general of the Republic, stated yesterday that 89 percent of the persons imprisoned throughout the country are being held under pretrial [including investigative] detention, barely 11 percent having actually been convicted of a crime.

The attorney general disclosed that presently there are 10,712 prisoners in Dominican Republic jails, of whom 9,527 are pretrial and investigative detainees, and 1,890 have been convicted of a crime.

Reyes Duluc made this disclosure as he was being interviewed on the "Aeromundo" television program, produced and directed by newsman Guillermo Gomez, and broadcast in Color Vision every Sunday between 1000 and 1100.

The attorney general ascribed the situation to the delay in the holding of hearings by the courts and expressed the view that the problem can be solved by computerizing the Office of the Attorney General and the courts.

It is urgent, he said, to institute measures designed to expedite proceedings, in order to diminish considerably the number of pretrial and investigative detainees.

He stated that he is instructing the Office of the Attorney General, under Law 1014, to speed up proceedings, and to release those persons at the end of 15 days, with or without bail, who are being held under investigative detention and in whose cases the court has been unable to render a decision within that time.

The attorney general's office, he said, is employing a sizable number of lawyers in the studying of records, with a view to shortening the proceedings as much as possible.

He emphasized, however, that the judicial proceedings must be thorough, and in a sense extended, to allow full opportunity for defense of the accused.

Considering the large number of pretrial detainees in Dominican jails, many of them must be innocent, he acknowledged.

In this regard, he said, the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic is working on the simpler cases with a view to settling them. And this objective is being achieved, he asserted.

On the other hand, he said, the large majority of the pretrial detention cases involve complicated proceedings, in which the defendants use all available means for their defense, prolonging the case.

In murder cases, for example, he said, defendants are not interested in having their cases heard rapidly, and therefore enter dilatory pleadings to delay the trial, all of which is permitted in order to guarantee the defense of the accused.

He disclosed that the necessary studies are already under way to computerize the Office of the Attorney General in its entirety.

He noted that an item funding this computerization has been included in next year's budget that has been submitted to the president of the Republic. He believes that computerization will speed up pretrial proceedings, resolve the large number of pending cases, and considerably shorten the duration of trials.

In another context, the attorney general of the Republic made reference to the summary warrants being served by some court officials, and indicated that steps are being taken to eliminate this practice.

One of his major concerns since becoming attorney general, said Dr. Reyes Duluc, has been the elimination of this practice, which causes the citizens so much harm.

To date, he said, the Supreme Court of Justice has dismissed thousands of court officials who have been found guilty of serving summary warrants.

He pointed out that the Office of the Attorney General constantly indicts court officials against whom evidence has been submitted in this respect, and he made a public appeal to those receiving summary or unfounded warrants to contact the attorney general's office and lodge a due complaint.

He will institute proceedings on such complaints, he said, and, once the truth of the accusation is established, the court official will be dismissed and, should the case so warrant, be remanded for trial by the courts.

He asserted that several thousand court officers have already been punished, but that it has been done in silence so as not to alarm, and not cause court officers to fear doing their job.

He explained that in some cases the complaint is filed by persons who lie in order to justify their cases, or who have failed to comply with valid warrants they have received.

Dr. Reyes Duluc expressed optimism as to the progress Dominican justice can make in solving the problems that are presently affecting it.

The more deeply he goes into the Dominican judiciary's problems, he said, the more certain he is that success will be achieved.

He said that during the time he served as the Dominican Republic's ambassador to the Holy See, he gained much experience in the European judicial system, and realized that it suffers from many ills similar to those of the Dominican Republic.

In his view, the country is in a better condition to deal with the situation and find solutions to the shortcomings of its judicial system, with improved prospects for success in this respect, in light of the interest President Joaquin Balaguer is showing in making it possible.

Dr. Reyes Duluc exhorted the lawyers of the new graduating class to wear the toga with honor and avoid corruption.

And he called upon the Dominicans to comply with the law, declaring that a people who comply with the law are a people who progress in peace and harmony.

## * Economic Review of 1992 by CIEA Economist

*93CA0045B Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 16 Nov 92 p 3*

[Article by Research and Applied Economics Center [CIEA] economist Fernando Pellerano]

[Text] In the view of many independent economists, the Central Bank's official estimates indicating a 6 percent rate of real growth of the GDP [gross domestic product] in 1992 are very optimistic. Estimates of this year's growth rate by independent analysts have been more moderate. The Research and Applied Economics Center, for example, has estimated a 1992 growth of around 3 percent. Others have placed it at around 4 percent. In any case, these estimates reveal a certain rebound with respect to this variable's drab behavior in 1991, when there was no growth, and in 1990, when GDP in real terms dropped by 5.3 percent.

In terms of economic sectors, the main sources of growth in 1992 were the tertiary (services, tourism), energy, and construction sectors. Consumption of electrical energy posted a notable rise of 25 percent for the January-September period of 1992 with respect to the same period in 1991.

From the standpoint of spending, the demand factor that imparted the main thrust to this growth is estimated to have been that of public spending, and mainly its investment and private consumption components. No significant rebound of private investment is seen to have occurred, and the current accounts balance of payments is not expected to post a major improvement, with the trade balance deficit likely to exceed $1.1 billion this year, a clear deterioration with respect to the 1991 figure of $820 million.

The overall inflation rate as of yearend 1992 will be higher than that of 1991. The general consumer price index is expected to post a rise of around eight percentage points, as compared to an inflation rate of 4 percent in 1991.

The government has maintained the most important factors of its anti-inflationary policy, begun in 1991, under the 18-month standby agreement with the IMF [International Monetary Fund). These are: stabilization of the nominal exchange rate, a liberalization of bank interest rates that has resulted in high real interest rates, fiscal moderation, and a lowering of customs duties and quantitative restrictions on imports.

On the other hand, real wages in the private sector have stagnated, with a slight tendency toward deterioration. The nominal wages of public-sector employees were increased during the final months of the year.

Tax revenues for 1992 are being projected to total 14.3 billion pesos, up 44 percent over 1991. This significant rise in tax collections is owing to the implementation of tax and customs reforms, and indirectly to the rise in imports of goods and services. The hidden tax on fuels, also known as the "oil differential," contributed substantially to official tax revenues. The tax burden on the economy in 1992 will thus amount to 13.8 percent.

Capital spending by the central government is projected to rise by 1.5 percent of GDP, from 4.6 percent of GDP in 1991 to approximately 6 percent of GDP in 1992. Government operating expenses are expected to post a rise of 20 percent in nominal terms.

The central government's current budgetary surplus for the January-September 1992 period attained 7.58 billion pesos, or nearly twice that for the same period in 1991. This was clearly the float the government was counting on to finance the increase in public-sector investment.

It is still difficult to estimate the consolidated public sector's financial balance, inasmuch as the deficits of the principal public-sector enterprises are as yet unknown. But sizable operating deficits have been announced by the Dominican Electricity Corporation and the State Sugar Board.

The measures instituted to streamline the working of the exchange system, and the liberalization of interest rates, which began over a year ago, have produced attractive conditions for investment in domestic financial assets. This in turn has produced a substantial net influx of short-term capital from abroad. This influx and the

existence of relatively high levels of international reserves have been determinative factors in the stability of the nominal rate of exchange at the level of around 12.50 pesos per dollar during 1992. A perceptible appreciation in the real exchange rate, however, and a reduction in subsidies, are acting as deterrents to the growth of exports. These are expected to end the year 20 percent below last year's total, versus a growth of over 20 percent in imports, primarily consumer goods for the end-user market.

With the substantial lowering of the nominal and effective import barriers that protected domestic industry—as a result of the customs reform—competitive imports have grown by leaps and bounds, thus increasing the penetration of the economy by imports, and the probability of a decline in industrial employment levels.

After dropping considerably during the first quarter of 1992, bank interest rates bottomed and resumed an upward trend. The banks' nominal interest rate on 90-day loans receivable oscillates between 28 percent and 32 percent. Their rate on loans payable (3-month time deposits) runs around 18 percent. The gross financial intermediation margin thus comfortably exceeds 10 percentage points.

Note: Some of the figures quoted herein as official data have been taken from the bulletin titled LEADING ECONOMIC INDICATORS dated November 1992, published by the Central Bank's Economic Research Department.

## * Foreign Grants To Total 4.2 Billion Pesos

*93CA0045C Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 24 Nov 92 p 1-D*

[Article by Jose Miguel Feliz]

[Text] Julio Ortega Tous, the head of the National Planning Office [ONAPLAN], said, yesterday, that the nation's 1993 general budget will include foreign grants totaling 4.2 billion pesos.

Mr. Ortega Tous said that the grants will come from organizations such as the Inter-American Development Bank [IDB], the International Fund for Agricultural Development [IFAD], the Venezuelan Investment Fund [FIV], and the European Economic Community [EEC].

The National Budget Office has been advised of these grants from international organizations, Mr. Ortega Tous said.

He indicated that some 750 million pesos of the above cited total will come from the EEC.

Mr. Ortega Tous cited the financial aid that the Dominican Electric Corporation [CDE] has been receiving from the IDB and the World Bank.

He said that the funds being provided by the EEC will be used in the public health, education, drinking water, and sewerage sectors of the economy.

Since the signing of the agreement between the government and the International Monetary Fund [IMF] the country has been receiving foreign economic and technical assistance, said Mr. Ortega Tous.

The flow of this aid will increase, he said, when the government finalizes its negotiations with the Paris Club.

These negotiations with the Paris Club are very advanced, said Mr. Ortega Tous, and when they are concluded the country stands to receive added technical and financial assistance.

## * ONAPRES Reports on October Revenues, Expenditures

*93CA0045E Santo Domingo EL CARIBE in Spanish 23 Nov 92 pp 1, 7*

[Text] The National Budget Office [ONAPRES] reports that the government's October revenues totaled 1,358.3 million pesos, up 53 million pesos over September's total.

In a note providing details of distribution under various headings, ONAPRES reports that of the 1,358.3 million pesos collected, 974 million were allotted to investment.

The full text of ONAPRES's note follows:

In the interest of keeping the public informed on the government's revenues and expenditures, the National Budget Office reports herein on the budgetary operations during the month of October 1992.

The strategy of the current administration presided over by Dr. Joaquin Balaguer, the president of the Republic, accords essential priorities in the disbursement of public funds to the farming and livestock, irrigation, drinking water, energy, public health, and education sectors, without neglecting other aspects of vital interest to a harmonious and progressive development of the national economy.

National revenues for the mentioned period exceeded 1,358,348,784.00 pesos, of which 974,065,012.66 pesos were allotted to investment.

The farming and livestock, irrigation, and energy sectors received a total of 150,170,759.11 pesos. In particular, the National Institute of Water Resources [INDRHI] received the sum of 43,431,299.32 pesos for the construction and supervision of the Jiguey-Aguacate Dam and the Sabaneta Dam project, as well as for the construction and repair of canals, and the maintenance of other dams.

The Dominican Electricity Corporation [CDE] received 31,502,552.38 pesos to cover commitments and improvements to our country's electric power system.

The Dominican Agrarian Institute [IAD] received 17,454,520.83 pesos for the implementation of several projects and for the financing of various farm programs. The Special Fund for Agricultural-Livestock Development [FEDA] received 1,440,190.25 pesos for intensification of programs in support of agricultural production and other related purposes; the La Cruz de Manzanillo project, 2,178,188.00 pesos for the planting of different farm crops; the National Cotton Institute, 1 million pesos; the Secretariat of State for Agriculture, 52,747,475.00 pesos; the State Sugar Council [CEA], 1 million pesos for preparation of the forthcoming harvest.

The National Institute of Drinking Water and Sewers [INAPA] received the sum of 33,068,897.07 pesos for the implementation of various projects.

The Central Bank of the Republic received 276 million pesos for payments on the public debt; and to bolster our currency, the president of the Republic authorized a withdrawal of 30 million pesos from circulation. The Santo Domingo Aqueducts and Sewers Corporation received 99,029,146.44 pesos for the construction of the Valdesia-Santo Domingo aqueduct, the Central Cibao aqueduct, and other projects.

The Secretariat of State for Public Works and Communications received a total of 254,170,136.11 pesos; the Office of Government Project Supervising Engineers, 60,315,681.99; and the Government Project Coordination and Auditing Office, 32,959,472.95 pesos for the implementation of projects and programs of social interest throughout the Republic, such as housing, airport, maritime port, customs-free trade zone, aqueduct, sewer system, highway, local road, street maintenance, and historical monument projects.

## * Jan-Oct ITBIS Yields 1.86 Billion Pesos

*93CA0045D Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 11 Nov 92 p 1-D*

[Article by Pedro Caba, economic editor]

[Text] In the first 10 months of this year, the ITBIS [Sales Tax on Industrialized Goods and Services] has yielded 1.86 billion pesos.

These first 10 months have served as a barometer of the effect of the new version of the ITBIS contained in the tax code. In the first five months of the year, in its old version—which put the tax rate at 6 percent and did not provide for new activities affected by the tax—the ITBIS produced only 761.4 million pesos. In the second five months, in its new version—at the rate of 8 percent—it produced 1,098.8 million pesos.

Thus, in the second five-months period, the proceeds of the ITBIS increased by 67.5 million pesos a month on average.

Tax experts who were consulted pointed out that despite the increase, which had been projected under the new version to compensate for the loss in revenue to the state resulting from the increase in exemptions from the income tax, inflation levels remained unchanged, contrary to the opinion that had been expressed by many economists and businessmen.

In October, the General Directorate of Customs collected 130 million pesos to take the lead, over the ITBIS tax collectors, in revenues for the month, displacing from that lead position for the first time since 1984 the Directorate of Internal Revenue, which collected 114.9 million pesos.

From 1984 to 1992, the ITBIS has produced tax revenues totaling 6,240.1 million pesos.

In 1991, ITBIS revenue totaled 1,467.4 million pesos. This means that in just 10 months, the new version of the ITBIS has generated almost 400 million pesos more than the old version.

## * Jan-Oct Revenues Exceed 13.3 Billion Pesos

*93CA0045F Santo Domingo EL SIGLO in Spanish 24 Nov 92 p 1-D*

[Article by Mozart De Lancer]

[Text] With two months remaining to the end of the year, and having collected revenues totaling 13,309.5 million pesos as of the end of the first 10 months of 1992, the government has exceeded its estimate of the total revenue for the year. At this rate, it will probably end the year with over 15 billion pesos added to its coffers.

The figures provided by the National Budget Office [ONAPRES] thus show a substantial rise in government revenues by comparison with those for the first 11 months of 1991, when they totaled 9,164.3 million pesos.

They also show the revenues for the aforementioned 10-month period exceeding the 13,080 million peso Expenditures and Revenues Budget's revenue projection for the year.

For next year, the administration is studying the implementation of a budget bill and public spending law that would exceed 20 billion pesos.

A relevant aspect reflected by the figures provided by ONAPRES is the government's continued determination to maintain investment, or capital, spending well above that for current operating expenses, despite the reiterated demands for salary, wage, pension, and retirement pay increases, among others.

In October of last year, capital expenditures totaled 974 million pesos, while funding for current operating expenses totaled 480.7 million pesos.

The administration maintains this tendency month after month throughout the year, despite the compensatory guidelines recommended by domestic experts and international organizations.

As regards collection levels, the General Directorate of Customs continues to lead in contributions to the national coffers, with 719.0 pesos in October revenues. During the first 10 months of the year, Customs has contributed 5,986.9 million pesos to the national treasury.

The Income Tax Directorate's October contribution was 208.3 million pesos, and its total for the first 10 months was 3,250.0 million. It was followed by the Office of the National Treasurer, whose October revenue was 2,565.6 million pesos [as published], and its total for the 10 months was 2,565.6 million.

Internal Revenue and the National Lottery collected, in the first 10 months of the year, 1,560.9 million and 162.2 million pesos respectively. The sums collected by them in October were 156.2 million and 17.2 million pesos respectively.

According to the ONAPRES figures, the government's cash reserve during the first 10 months of the year reached 1,467.7 million pesos. In October, the government had a cash surplus of 155.2 million pesos, according to the ONAPRES report.

The funds dedicated to the service of the country's foreign debt continue gravitating around the behavior of the government's revenues and expenditures. In October, the oil differential produced 205.0 million pesos which the government devoted to debt service, together with 71.0 million pesos generated by the surcharge on exchange for the same purpose.

The official figures show that over the first 10 months of the year, the oil differential has produced a total of 1,444.0 million pesos, and the exchange surcharge, 953.4 million pesos, all of which has been devoted to debt service.

## Haiti

### CEP Issues Latest Results of 18 Jan Balloting

*FL2201212793 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1145 GMT 22 Jan 93*

[Text] The Electoral Council has issued the final results of the 18 January legislative elections. Those results show the clear victory of the former ANDP, National Alliance for Development and Progress. In the southeast, an independent is in first position: Ancion Gabriel is ahead of Martin Margareth, MIDH [Movement for the Establishment of Democracy in Haiti]. In the north, Manigat Romel, MIDH, has been elected senator. In the northeast, Andre Amos, PANPRA [Nationalistic and Progressive Revolutionary Party of Haiti], is reelected. Dejean Belizaire in the Artibonite is reelected. Dejean Belizaire, MNP-28 [National Patriotic Movement of 28 November] leader and former president of the Senate and of the National Assembly, is the winner. In the Central Department, Serge Gilles, PANPRA, is ahead of Reynold Georges. In the South, independent Rousseau Yves has won. In Grand-Anse, Gilles Louis Ney, MIDH, is the victor. In the Northwest, Eugene (Osny), another MIDH candidate, is ahead.

Eight departments out of nine have reported results. It should be noted that the Electoral Council invalidated West Department results because of irregularities and fraud.

Final results for the 18 January legislative elections for deputy: In the north, Saint-Raphael constituency, MIDH candidate Guillaume Saint-Jean Laporte. In the second constituency in Pignon, Theodore (Diomede) has won. In the northeast, Jean-Pierre (Arenks), MIDH, has won and a PANPRA candidate is ahead in Grand-Anse. In Petit-Trou de Nippes, Mondesir Brignol.

### 'Center' Candidate Requests Election Invalidation

*FL2201162293 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1200 GMT 22 Jan 93*

[Text] Senate candidate for the Department of the Center, Reynold Georges, has written a letter to the Permanent Electoral Council [CEP] president, asking him to invalidate the elections in his department. The reasons posed by the candidate include his observations that 90

of the Department Electoral Office [BED], Communal Electoral Office [BEC], and Registration and Voting Office [BIV] officials were Nationalistic and Progressive Revolutionary Party of Haiti [PANPRA] members and that all his representatives were expelled from the BIV's.

[Georges], the ALAH [Alliance for the Liberation and Progress of Haiti] candidate, who has presented about 13 reasons, says he agreed to participate in these elections under the formal guarantee of the CEP, promising that the elections would be free, honest, and democratic. According to the latest statements by Reynold Georges, if the CEP does not respond to this report, it implicitly acknowledges the correctness of those requesting a boycott of the elections because they were rigged.

### 'West' Candidate Challenges Election Invalidation

*FL2201164993 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1200 GMT 22 Jan 93*

[Excerpt] The first candidate in the Department of the West to disagree with the electoral council's decision to invalidate the elections in this department, is Marc Guillaume. He says he is the principal victim of that decision because in his opinion, this measure is being justified by a series of structures set up to facilitate the election of some candidates who are under the banner of a political party. Candidate Guillaume, who does not specify which political party, has congratulated the people in the Department of the West for having shown their political maturity by voting for him.

The inhabitants of the 18 communes and communal sections understand that Marc Guillaume in the Senate of the Republic represents change, hope, real democracy, and harmony among the various strata of national life. He is the third candidate—after Arnold Antonin and Daniel Narcisse—who believed that he would win the 18 January elections. But there is a difference with Guillaume, as he completely disapproves of the council's decision. [passage omitted]

## Eugene To Bring Suit Against Marc Bazin

*FL2201214293 Port-au-Prince Radio Tropic FM in French 1200 GMT 22 Jan 93*

[Text] Gregoire Eugene of the Haitian Social Christian Party [PSCH] has advised that he intends to bring an immediate judicial action against the Villa d'Accueil prime minister, Marc Bazin, and the members of his electoral council, charging betrayal, forgery and use of forgeries, fraud, and illicit enrichment at the expense of the public treasury. Let us listen to Emmanuel Laurent for details.

[Begin recording, in Creole] [Laurent] Attorney Gregoire Eugene, who is the president of the PSCH, will bring a judicial action against Marc Bazin and the Villa d'Accueil electoral council for dishonesty, immorality, fraud, use of forgeries, and embezzlement of public funds. This judicial action will also charge deputies and senators involved in Bazin's coup plot and their unconstitutional actions since 30 September [1991]. This action should lead to:

1) The resignation of Marc Bazin, whose presence is damaging to the country;

2) The dissolution of the parliament as a result of the 18 January elections. Gregoire Eugene explains:.

[Eugene] First, listen. Why... [changes thought] First, it is a coup d'etat that he has staged.

[Laurent] So, you are against a coup d'etat?

[Eugene] I have made myself clear on that. He has staged a coup d'etat only because.... [changes thought] There are three [constitutional] scenarios in which he might lead the country. First, if he were elected, but he was not; second, if he were president and judge at the Court of Cassation of the Republic, but he is not; third, if he received a mandate from a provisionally established president to preside over the council of ministers. Period. He is not in any of the three constitutional situations that could allow one to lead the country. [end recording]

## Costa Rica

### Court Ruling Voids Extradition Treaty With U.S.

*PA2301044993 San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 14 Jan 93 p 6a*

[Excerpts] The Extradition Treaty that was in force between the United States and Costa Rica is no longer valid after the Constitutional Court admitted a habeas corpus appeal presented by U.S. citizen James F. Karls.

In a press release, the Supreme Court of Justice said that "the Constitutional Court, through Resolution No. 123 of 12 January 1993, has ruled not to apply the Extradition Treaty signed in 1982 between the United States and Costa Rica."

In the report, the Court indicates that the Fourth Court accepted Karls' appeal and ordered the First Criminal Court to proceed, three days following the ruling, "to adapt the proceedings to the Extradition Treaty currently in force."

The ruling sentenced the state to pay damages. In this case, the damages will be paid through the execution of the sentence under administrative law. [passage omitted]

Foreign Minister Bernd Niehaus noted that the Foreign Ministry and the government will respect the ruling issued by the Judicial Branch through the Constitutional Court.

"Currently, the only thing we have knowledge of is the ruling, and to give an opinion I must become familiar with it," Niehaus said.

For the foreign minister, the Constitutional Court ruling does not annul the treaty, rather it adapts the sentence to the general principles of the Extradition Law.

LA REPUBLICA attempted to contact the Attorney General's Office for its reaction, but Attorney General Adrian Vargas did not want to discuss the case until he was familiar with it. [passage omitted]

As a result of the Fourth Court ruling, the United States will have to adapt the cases that are being processed in the courts and in the Attorney General's Office to the extradition procedures.

Several of the extradition requests refer to individuals linked to drug trafficking such as Colombians Carlos Uruijo, Carlos Figueros, Raul Alvarez, and Zoraida Figueroa. There are also the cases of Gustavo Fernandez, Luis Crawdord, John Milton Smith, Paul Maurice Doyon, Ryan Haug Christopher, Allan Stone, and Mark Anton Bjorklund.

All of these individuals have been incarcerated, but they could be set free as a result of the Fourth Court ruling.

### Calderon Departs for Germany, To Discuss Economy

*PA1901233593 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 19 Jan 93*

[Report by William Cespedes]

[Text] Costa Rican President Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier, who traveled from San Jose to Miami on 18 January, will be leaving at noon for Hamburg. Hamburg is an important German port that is the entry point for bananas exported from Latin America. President Calderon will be arriving there on the morning of 20 January for talks with the German private sector. They will analyze the situation caused by the planned tariff restrictions on Latin American bananas. Such a measure will also harm the German economy because at least 1,500 workers will be unemployed and Germany will receive fewer bananas at a higher prices and of lower quality.

After meeting with the private sector in Hamburg, President Calderon will travel to Berlin, where he will meet with Chancellor Helmut Kohl. He will be meeting with government, business, and investment sector representatives. From Berlin, the president will go to Bonn, where he will be received by President Richard von Weizsaecker. They will discuss bilateral topics, especially German cooperation in improving the environment. They will sign a loan agreement for technical education in Costa Rica.

President Calderon said that during his visit to Germany he will insist to international organizations and the EEC that Latin American banana imports must not be restricted. He said the legal battle against the EEC will continue.

[Begin Calderon recording] [words indistinct] declare legal battle on the EEC and we are going to fight to [words indistinct] in the GATT. There is a European commitment to comply with the GATT, to which it has adhered. Many Latin American countries have joined the GATT and we will make sure it is fulfilled. [end recording]

President Calderon believes that even if the European countries violate their commitments, they will have to comply with them one way or another.

[Begin Calderon recording] They can [words indistinct] as long as they comply with the international commitments. In this case, they are not complying with the agreements they have signed. They are agreements that force them to follow norms of conduct in this area, with the rest of the world. [end recording]

President Calderon hopes to obtain highly positive results for the country during this official visit at the invitation of German President Richard von Weizsaecker. President Calderon will stay in Germany for four days.

## El Salvador

### FMLN Groups Said Detected in Volcano Areas

*PA2201163693 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 22 Jan 93*

[Text] Defense Minister General Rene Emilio Ponce announced on 21 January that military intelligence has detected the presence of armed guerrillas in at least three volcano areas in the country. According to the military chief, this represents a serious violation of the peace agreements.

Gen. Ponce said that contrary to the peace agreements, there are still Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] armed groups. The high-ranking military leader urged members of the UN observers for El Salvador [Onusal] to verify this situation that darkens the new national setting. Here is what Gen. Ponce said:

[Being recording] [Ponce] There are armed FMLN groups at the El Salvador Volcano, the Santa Ana Volcano, and the San Vicente Volcano; there are also others near Guazapa Hill. I definitely think Onusal has to verify this and give its official opinion on the matter.

[Unidentified reporter] What do you think of this situation?

[Ponce] I consider this as noncompliance with the agreements. These are individuals who have been left behind, who did not participate in the demobilization. They will have to receive special treatment by the corresponding authorities as armed criminals. [end recording]

Gen. Ponce added that the Armed Forces have decided to reduce their forces as mandated by the agreements. This reduction, however, will be completed ahead of time. The demobilization of over 30,000 soldiers will be completed by 31 January.

[Begin recording] [Ponce] This ends on 6 February with the demobilization of the General Manuel Jose Arce Rapid Deployment Infantry Battalion. We plan to conclude the reduction of the brigades and detachments on 31 January and the rapid deployment battalions on 6 February.

[Reporter] How many men will be demobilized?

[Ponce] A total of 31,500 men will have been demobilized since 1992 in a process that will be completed on 31 January. [end recording]

Gen. Ponce said that the seizure of weapons used by the Army is being completed, but it is worrisome that gangs of robbers are armed with military weapons.

### FMLN Denies Presence

*PA2401163893 San Salvador DIARIO LATINO in Spanish 22 Jan 93 p 7*

[Text] Jorge Shafik Handal, coordinator of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN], has refuted General Rene Emilio Ponce's remarks on the presence of armed guerrillas on the slopes of volcanoes in San Salvador, Santa Ana, and San Vicente.

Shafik Handal, the top leader of the FMLN, an organization that is now a political party, said Ponce's remarks are intended to divert attention from the commitment to purge the Armed Forces. Such a purpose will be defeated, he said.

Shafik Handal reported that on 21 January the Truth Commission presented to the United Nations the results of its investigation on human rights violations during the war. He said the United Nations sent copies of the report to the government, FMLN, and the UN observer group in El Salvador. He added that this document must be made public, as agreed, unlike the list of officers purged from the Armed Forces, which has been kept secret, a situation that has created controversy.

Mentioning the government's failure to comply with the peace agreements, he said President Alfredo Cristiani expects Bill Clinton's inauguration as the new U.S. President to contribute to the agreements taking a new course so that Cristiani can help the officers be purged. The purge cannot be reversed, Handal said.

Shafik Handal spoke during a posthumous homage to Chilean combatants who died in the Salvadoran war. The event took place at the Communist Party of El Salvador's headquarters with relatives and guests attending.

### FMLN Admits to 'Differing Views' Among Member Groups

*PA2401153693 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 23 Jan 93*

[Text] In a communique, the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] has admitted that, although the organization's five member groups fought together for more than 10 years, each of them has its own interpretation of reality and how to change it.

The FMLN said that these differing views never constituted an obstacle in the struggle for their ideals and that, quite to the contrary, their disagreements helped the groups make the best possible decisions according to the circumstances. The FMLN said these disagreements had not been mentioned in public earlier because war made it impossible to reveal the guerrillas' internal structure and situation. Now that the conflict is over, however, the people should become aware of the FMLN's nature.

The FMLN stated that the existence of various currents of thought and the ongoing debate among its members to reach proper conclusions is a sign of strength rather than weakness.

### Association Spokesman on 'Preferential' U.S. Tariffs

*PA2301182293 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 23 Jan 93*

[Report by Edwin Gongora]

[Text] On 22 January, Juan Hector Vidal, executive director of the National Association of Private Enterprise, ANEP, said that if the U.S. Congress restricts the preferential tariffs afforded to Salvadoran products, as the National Peasant-Worker Unity, UNOC, would like, the workers and not the government will be adversely affected.

The ANEP spokesman said UNOC's decision to request that the U.S. Congress suspend the preferential tariff given to Salvadoran products will burden the country, as the action would prompt a decrease in foreign exchange and have a negative impact on the commercial sector.

[Begin Vidal recording] How is it possible that, at this stage, a group of unions, allegedly to defend union rights, is practically asking a friendly country to attack our country economically. The action is not being started by the other country but by Salvadorans. We believe—and it is not our intention to dramatize the issue—that such an attitude is a crime of treason against the fatherland. Many Salvadorans would be hurt if the preferential tariff is suspended. [end recording]

Vidal anticipates that the U.S. Congress will not accept the UNOC endeavors and will understand that serious damage would be inflicted on the country if the preferential tariff is suspended. He added that the UNOC attitude no longer can be used as a pressure mechanism and denied there is a lack of willingness to negotiate with the labor sector.

[Begin Vidal recording] We will not accept gratuitous accusations from labor or government sectors. I can assure you the business sector is working with a positive attitude and is trying to contribute its share of responsibility and sacrifice to solve the country's problems. We demand respect for the business sector. [end recording]

Vidal also said that the dialogue forum is working under guidelines established by the groups at the forum and not in a demagogic manner as union leaders have asserted.

## Guatemala

### Bench Deputy Sees URNG Proposal as Cease-Fire

*PA2201230893 Guatemala City Teleonce Television in Spanish 1800 GMT 22 Jan 93*

[Excerpt] It was said on 22 January in political circles that President Serrano's government and the URNG [Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity] could agree to a cease-fire even before completing the peace agreement agenda. This has occurred just one day after the guerrilla leadership replied to the president's most recent initiative. Bench Deputy Oliverio Garcia Rogas, alternate to the National Reconciliation Commission, gave his own interpretation of the URNG reply to the president's proposal, which ratifies the prominent role played by the National Reconciliation Commission in the peace process.

[Begin Garcia recording] I believe that the government and the URNG have agreed to strengthen the position of mediator Monsignor Rodolfo Quezada Toruno and agreed on the importance of UN involvement in the process. The URNG proposal states its agreement to discuss the main points of the general agenda and mutually agrees to a 90-day calendar to discuss them through civilian representation. We immediately noticed a very important topic that is connected with this when the URNG says: Both sides are to commit to suspend military actions, even though all the important points of the general agenda have not yet been completely discussed. This means nothing less than a cease-fire. Guatemalans can, with some caution, hope that the internal armed confrontation will end, which means an end to sabotage, terrorism, and the death of many Guatemalans. This should not be seen as a concession by the guerrillas or the government. I believe the Guatemalan people are demanding an end to the armed confrontation so that they can enter a stage of peace and development.

With these principles, stated both in the government and in the guerrilla declarations, I believe we need to sit down immediately at the negotiating table and make the necessary agreements to discuss the general agenda and a cease-fire to end the internal armed confrontation in Guatemala. [passage omitted] [end recording]

### President Rejects URNG Proposals

*PA2301174593 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1650 GMT 23 Jan 93*

[Text] Guatemala City, 23 Jan (ACAN-EFE)—Guatemalan President Jorge Serrano Elias on 23 January rejected the conditions imposed by the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG) guerrillas to negotiate peace.

The URNG announced on 22 January it agreed to negotiate the peace plan presented by Serrano at the United Nations but imposed a series of conditions including a 50-percent reduction on the size of the Army and a purge among the officers involved in human rights violations.

During an official ceremony at Atlantico Naval Base, President Serrano described as a "disappointment" the response by the URNG General Command to the peace initiative he announced at the United Nations on 19 January.

"It is unbelievable that the guerrillas are trying to catch the world by surprise by comparing it to the Salvadoran process when they are completely different processes," the president said.

On 14 January, Elias proposed to the guerrillas that they sign a final peace agreement in no less than 90 days or, if not, that they agree to a final cease-fire under UN verification.

On 22 January, the URNG replied it would accept a suspension of armed actions if and when the Civilian Self-Defense Patrols are immediately dissolved, the Army is reduced by 50 percent, and a purge of the military leaders involved in human rights violations is carried out.

Serrano stated: "I do not understand why the guerrillas now come with proposals they never presented before."

According to the president, the government would accept a dialogue with the URNG in the presence of conciliator Bishop Rodolfo Quezada Toruno and UN representative Jean Arnault to determine the rebels' political willingness to sign a peace agreement.

Guatemala is the only country in Central America that has an ongoing civil war. According to humanitarian organizations, the Guatemalan internal strife has caused the loss of 150,000 lives and the exodus of a similar number of Guatemalans to foreign countries.

### Differences Between Refugees, Government Noted

*PA2301133993 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 22 Jan 93 p 2*

[Report by Felix Daniel Colindres in Huehuetenango]

[Text] Differences between the repatriated refugees and the government became more acute on 21 January when refugee leaders reported that their "rights have begun to be violated." Cear [Special Commission for Assistance to Repatriated People] and Fonapaz [National Fund for Peace] directors said that the "former refugees irresponsibly violated the agreements," and asked the mediators to "play their role clearly."

At a news conference at the reception center, Miguel Ordonez, leader of the former refugees, reported that Cear prevented a reception in Guatemala.

Ordonez said that "the government forced the cancellation of the religious, civil, and cultural welcome that was planned by the various sectors in Huehuetenango" and added that "the St. Christopher Diocese planned to make a symbolic delivery of the returnees to the Guatemalan church."

CCPP's [Permanent Commissions of Refugees] Rafael Figueroa reported that the government tried to force them to take shelter in military tents, which the returnees rejected. "At 2100 on 20 January [0200 GMT on 21 January] many families were still out in the open," Figueroa added.

The former refugees also reported that "Cear prevented entry to and exit from the reception center, which is under their control, arguing that the people were undocumented."

Later, Fonapaz Executive Director Alvaro Colom Caballeros told PRENSA LIBRE that the government reiterated to the mediators the cases of noncompliance by the CCPP, who "irresponsibly have violated the agreements."

"Out of respect for the mediators we have not made this public," he said and added that early on 21 January they were told that the situation had turned "serious and it would be their responsibility" (the mediators).

"We asked them, before we take up new measures to put the situation in order, that they intervene and play their role clearly," Colom Caballeros said in a rather firm and serious tone.

"We cannot give in more; we are trying to do our work in the most technical and humanitarian way possible and we cannot handle topics other than those that deal with the return."

"It was not until 1400 on 19 January—one day before the return—that we were told the route and at 2100 on the same day they were trying to change it," Colom Caballeros added.

"The list of escorts was never properly received, therefore they formed an out of proportion floating population," stressed Colom, while he explained that "the escorts occupied the beds intended for the refugees and left them outside."

The official admitted that the repatriated were unhappy with the olive drab tents. He said, however, that after multiple requests to institutions, only the Red Cross and the Guatemalan Army responded.

Lastly, Colom said: "Human rights have no color when children are at stake."

## Honduras

### President Views DEA Operations, Remaining Term

*PA2301021493 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1815 GMT 22 Jan 93*

[News conference by President Rafael Leonardo Callejas at the San Pedro Sula Municipal Palace with local reporters—live; broadcast in progress]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Unidentified reporter] Is it true the DEA will be permitted to use Honduran territory for its operations?

[Callejas] For your information, the DEA is already conducting operations in this country. You know that full and well. You have seen DEA operations in the past decade. You have witnessed operations here in the San Pedro Sula Airport. For that reason, DEA operations, stemming from agreements that are important for the country, will continue. There is Latin American solidarity in the struggle against drug trafficking. This carries commitments, not only with the DEA but also with the Mexican Attorney General's Office, Colombia, Venezuela, and with other Latin American countries.

At the first meeting of the presidents that I attended in Montelimar, Nicaragua, the Central American presidents signed a multilateral agreement. We have subsequently signed bilateral agreements with the United States through the DEA. In that respect, we will continue requesting DEA assistance in the fight against drug trafficking. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] [passage omitted] During a demonstration by the Trade Union of Tela Railroad Company Workers [Sitraterco] held on 21 January, the workers accused you and your labor minister of acting like company puppets.

[Callejas] I would like to tell all Hondurans that the government has a duty to act as a mediator. We will continue to do that. The sides involved in a disagreement always want government backing. The Tela Railroad Company and Sitraterco would like the government to take a clearer and more defined stand in favor of their interests. That does not fall within the authority of the government. The government's duty is to mediate and enforce the law. Within that context, we have done our best to reach an understanding and will continue to do so. [passage omitted]

[Gabarrete] Rene Gabarrete of LA PRENSA. When you were sworn in as president three years ago, you pledged that in four years you would give back a better country to the Honduran people. With less than a year remaining of your term, is this promise still valid? If your answer is yes, we would like to hear what you have to say.

[Callejas] Of course the country will be better off when my term ends in 1994. I have no doubt. It is possible that certain sectors of society have experienced a negative effect, particularly regarding price liberalization. Generally speaking, however, the country's true macroeconomic situation, which is the basis for the transition to the future, is much better. I am inviting you to attend the 25 January Congress meeting, where I will present a report. You will be able to compare the country's statistics and figures for the periods before and after I assumed the Presidency.

[Rojas] Good morning, Mr. President. Ernesto Alonso Rojas of Radio America. I would like to ask you two questions. First, referring to Bill Clinton's inauguration, you said in Tegucigalpa that you were not concerned about the United States shifting its Latin American policy. Does this mean the Central American governments are afraid that President Clinton might change U.S. policy toward Central America because his party's policy differs from the Republican Party's policy? Second, you keep saying the National Party will win the upcoming elections. Why are you so sure?

[Callejas] The behavior of U.S. society is based on two fundamental premises. It is a democratic society and it believes in the free market. These two principles are set forth in the U.S. Constitution. These concepts of U.S. foreign policy will never change. The United States will never become a nation without democracy or a free market. Only once, during former President Nixon's term, was there an attempt to establish price controls in the United States. This had catastrophic results. You will remember that this led to doing away with the gold standard at a time when one ounce of gold was worth $38. A radical change took place in the liberalization of the U.S. currency, which has been devalued by 600 percent. An ounce of gold is worth approximately $385. When compared with the $38 that gold had been worth, the U.S. currency has really been devalued by 1000 percent. Currency is an index of a society's competitiveness. We should not confuse U.S. foreign policy with U.S. internal affairs. Democracy and market freedom are historic principles of the world's most powerful nation and this will not change.

What could change is the orientation of the defense of U.S. interests. The United States could change its course, protect its market more, give more impetus to certain aspects [words indistinct]. Something we should understand with absolute clarity is that, just as the previous government did, the new government will continue to cut foreign aid. Before President Clinton assumed office this year, U.S. aid for the balance of payments had already been reduced to $4 million. You will remember that in 1990 we had received $70 million from the [words indistinct] funds for the balance of payments. This is the meaning.

There will undoubtedly be a further reduction of foreign aid. There will be a clear cut in U.S. military aid for Honduras, which will be very small to begin with. We wish for the United States to recognize us as neighbors and to realize that our countries should be partners in progress as envisioned by former President Kennedy. This means free markets. Although the United States demands free markets, there are certain areas in which it refuses to allow other countries to participate. For instance, the United States imposed sugar quotas to protect its own farmers. This is why we are trying to have the Uruguay round of talks, to free international trade. This is why I have said that changes will occur mainly in regard to foreign aid. Apart from this, the United States will continue to support the fight against drug trafficking, continue to strengthen democracy, and continue to back the efforts of various countries to protect human rights by reducing both military and economic aid. [passage omitted]

### Government To Establish Presence at Salvadoran Border

*PA2201214493 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 22 Jan 93*

[Report by Nery Arteaga]

[Text] The Honduran Government and Armed Forces have begun to conduct development projects on the Honduran-Salvadoran border to establish the country's presence in formerly disputed areas.

The Honduran Government and Armed Forces will establish the country's presence at Honduran-Salvadoran border areas to avoid difficult situations because many Salvadorans and Hondurans do not want to leave the land they occupied before the conflict was solved. Regarding this topic, General Oscar Filander Armijo, Armed Forces inspector general, who represents the Army at the Border Commission, has told HRN:

[Begin recording] [Armijo] This commission will analyze and promote border development mainly in areas recovered by Honduras, as delimited recently by the International Court of Justice. We are studying the possibility of bringing full economic, social, psychological, and educational development to the area.

[Arteaga] Who are the members of this commission?

[Armijo] It is formed by all government ministries and even the Armed Forces.

[Arteaga] How would you assess the cooperation from the Salvadoran Armed Forces?

[Armijo] This commission is only coordinating development on our side of the border, with the assistance of international organizations such as the UN Development Program and Prodere [not further identified].

[Arteaga] How much money do you have to implement your plans in that area and what will by your first project?

[Armijo] Well, we are going to present a report to the government on the costs of border development. This will permit the government to make a decision on how they will support this plan.

[Arteaga] Do you have a preliminary report on border development?

[Armijo] No, because we are just holding our first meetings. [end recording]

The inspector general of the Armed Forces was also questioned on events at border areas regarding incursion of Salvadorans belonging to the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] in Honduras.

[Begin recording] [Armijo] That is the purpose of this meeting. We want to bring the presence of all government entities to the area.

[Arteaga] Although the ruling settling the border dispute has been issued, it seems the recovery of land may progress slowly.

[Armijo] Well, as you know, there have been some minor problems, like the presence of the FMLN in the border area. This has delayed the presence of the Honduran Government in the area in order to avoid problems.

[Arteaga] General, can problems be averted in the future given this situation?

[Armijo] In fact, we have already had a problem with the FMLN. We do not want to worsen the situation. Consequently, we are trying to bring the presence of all government agencies to the area.

[Arteaga] Is it true there are weapons in this area?

[Armijo] This investigation is being carried out by UN Observers for El Salvador, which was tasked to visit areas where there are Salvadoran guerrillas. They are conducting the investigations and have established there are weapons in some locations. We believe weapons are disappearing from the area, however, this cannot be confirmed because we are not in the area.

[Arteaga] General, it has been said there is no drinking water, latrines, schools, and other facilities in this area. What would you consider to be the top priorities?

[Armijo] Our priorities are education, health, and infrastructure, namely roads. We are working on these. [end recording]

## Nicaragua

### Chamorro Letter Congratulates President Clinton

*PA2201215393 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 21 Jan 93 pp 1, 12*

[Letter from President Violeta Chamorro to President Bill Clinton in Managua on 20 January]

[Text] Managua, 20 January 1993
Your Excellency
William Jefferson Clinton
The President of the United States of America
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President and appreciated friend,
On behalf of the people and the Government of Nicaragua, and in my own name, allow me to express my most sincere congratulations on such a significant event for your country, as you assume the Presidency of the United States of America; a country with which we enjoy strong ties of friendship that we would like to enhance and strengthen.

As you begin your work, you will be faced with the historic task of contributing to the creation of a new world order, which is just now taking form, in an era of enormous opportunity and new risks.

Please count on my most dedicated cooperation in whatever effort I may make to ensure the positive changes that have occurred are consolidated and to strengthen the trend toward a model of international relationships, founded on democracy, peace, and development.

We are well aware of the significance of the challenges and problems you must solve for the benefit of the people of the United States and of the efforts you must make within your own nation. We also know of your view on the close relationship between international affairs and the government's internal policy, as you yourself expressed during your presidential campaign, and of your conviction that the interests of a nation are closely related to the building of true and just peace and democracy throughout the world.

This knowledge gives us faith that it will be possible to enhance the relationship between the United States and Central American countries, particularly Nicaragua, under the conviction that whatever progress we may make to benefit peace and regional stability is closely related to the creation of opportunities for our countries to develop. I trust we will find in you the support we need to reach these goals.

May I take advantage of this opportunity to renew my best wishes for your term in office and to reaffirm our commitment to the friendship that unites our countries.

[Signed] Violeta B. de Chamorro, president of Nicaragua

## Resolution Issued on Presidency Minister's Dismissal

*PA2301002293 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 22 Jan 93*

[Text] His voice trembling, despite the presence of a large group of supporters, and constantly assisted by his legal advisers, Comptroller General Guillermo Potoy on 22 January suggested to President Violeta Chamorro that Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo be dismissed.

The Comptroller General's recommendation was delivered to the president's office on 22 January. The comptroller general read it during a news conference. The comptroller general explained that he is acting in accordance with the law and has nothing personal against Lacayo.

The resolution issued by the Comptroller General's Office imposes on Lacayo administrative penalties, including a fine of three months salary, with the funds going to the treasury. It calls on Chamorro to dismiss the Presidency minister, who is believed to be Nicaragua's strongman.

[Begin Potoy recording] Based on laws and regulations, and on Articles 171 and 172 of the Comptroller General's Office charter, the comptroller general, making use of its legal authority, resolves:

1. To impose administrative and disciplinary penalties on Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo Oyanguren based on the administrative responsibilities established in a resolution issued by the Comptroller General's Office at 1000 on 16 July 1992. This office is imposing this penalty because the higher authority, Her Excellency President Violeta Chamorro, has failed to do so.

2. A fine equivalent to three months salary is hereby imposed as a disciplinary administrative penalty on Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo, who must pay this to the treasury, according to this resolution, which also orders the presidency minister's dismissal.

3. Let a certificate of this resolution be delivered to Her Excellency the president for the appropriate legal action.

4. Let this resolution be published in the official daily LA GACETA to accord it legal weight.

5. Let this be copied, notified, and filed.

[Signed] Guillermo Potoy Angulo, comptroller general of Nicaragua.

## 'Text' of Dismissal Resolution

*PA2401194193 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 22 Jan 93 pp 1, 14*

["Text" of the resolution by Comptroller General Guillermo Potoy Angulo dismissing Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo, issued in Managua on 22 January]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] According to Paragraph 25 of a resolution issued by the Comptroller General's Office on 16 July 1992, Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo was found responsible for violating Articles 136 and 155 of the Comptroller General's Office's Organic Law, thereby meriting the administrative penalties stipulated by Paragraphs 4, 5, 10, 23, 37, 44, and 48 of Article 171 of the Organic Law. President Violeta Chamorro was properly notified of this resolution in note 10 DJG-018-92, dated 22 July 1992, so she, as the appointing authority, could impose disciplinary and administrative penalties and formally notify each of the officials involved.

On 17 January 1993, President Chamorro was asked about the penalties imposed on Lacayo. She did not reply. The resolution stands firm and remains in force as the result of the expiration of the required 30-day period, stipulated by Article 26 of the Amparo Law. This article refers to the filing of the only impugning instrument provided for in our legislation, Administrative Amparo Law (Articles 126 and 134 of the Comptroller General's Office's Organic Law).

Whereas: I. According to the Organic Law in force, the administrative penalties for unlawful behavior shall consist of a fine equivalent to no less than one month's salary and no greater than six months of the involved

official's salary. The official or officials covered by Article 171 of the Organic Law can be removed from their posts.

II. The administrative penalties of removal or fine, or both together, shall be imposed by the corresponding minister, the appointing authority, or the Comptroller General, when the previously mentioned officials fail to apply the penalties or have also incurred in actions deserving the administrative penalties referred to here. Six months have elapsed without President Chamorro, who appointed Minister Lacayo, imposing the corresponding disciplinary administrative sanctions, according to Article 171.

As a result of President Chamorro failing to apply the corresponding sanctions, the undersigned Comptroller General, in accordance with the governing legislation, Article 172 of the Organic Law, the Control System of the Public Administration and the People's Ownership Sector, and because this particular case is an exception in accordance with Article 150, hereby proceeds to impose the disciplinary sanctions stipulated by law.

III. The penalties will be imposed, between the minimum and the maximum, in accordance with the following criteria: the seriousness of the violation, whether or not the violation occurs for the first time, the administrative disorder that led to the violation, other facts which the Comptroller General believes should be taken into consideration in each case. In this particular instance, because the appointing authority failed to do so, the Comptroller General hereby imposes a fine equivalent to three months' salary and removes Minister Lacayo from office.

Applicable laws: Paragraphs 154, 155, 156, 157, and 198 of Article 150 of the Constitution; Articles 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 16, 19, 126, 134, 136, 154, 155, 156, 171, 172, 173, and 175 of the Organic Law, the Control System of the Public Administration and the People's Ownership Sector; Articles 1, 2, 3, 4, 11, 12, 13, and 14 of the Regulation for the Determination of Responsibilities.

Therefore: Based on the previously mentioned considerations, the quoted laws, and Articles 171 and 172 of the Organic Law, the Comptroller General hereby:

1. Imposes the corresponding disciplinary and administrative penalties on Antonio Lacayo, minister of the presidency, after his administrative responsibility was determined and declared by a resolution issued on 16 July 1992, because Lacayo's designating authority, President Chamorro, failed to impose those sanctions.

2. The following disciplinary and administrative penalties are hereby concurrently imposed on Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo: A fine equivalent to three months salary, which he must deposit at the national treasury, considering that this resolution stands firm, and removal from office.

3. A copy of this resolution shall be sent to President Chamorro for any and all legal purposes.

4. This resolution to be published in the gazette.

5. This resolution to be copied, notified, and filed. [Signed] Guillermo Potoy Angulo, Comptroller General

### Legal Adviser Reacts to Dismissal

*PA2301201893 Managua Radio Nicaragua Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 23 Jan 93*

[Text] Dr. Thomas Delaney, the presidential legal adviser, on 22 January said that according to the Constitution the president of the Republic is the only person empowered to dismiss a minister of state, and thus, any resolution issued by any other state authority for this purpose is illegal. This was his reply when consulted about a resolution issued by Comptroller General Guillermo Potoy against Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo, which was announced during a news conference.

The comptroller general, according to law, is empowered to dismiss government officials in certain cases but this power does not include ministers of state, Delaney added.

### Lacayo Dismisses Negotiations With Armed Groups

*PA2301201393 Managua Radio Nicaragua Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 23 Jan 93*

[Text] Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo said about 30,000 weapons are in civilian hands in Nicaragua and this poses a threat to citizens safety. The chief of the cabinet added the government's main task is to eradicate the culture of war.

When asked by reporters on possible negotiations with rearmed groups operating in the country, Minister Lacayo said categorically the government will not negotiate with any armed group. He added, however, that military authorities—through the disarmament brigades—are open to dialogue to promote voluntary disarmament:

[Begin recording] [Lacayo, in progress]....we say yes to talks because two different things are involved....

[Reporter, interrupting] [question indistinct]?

[Lacayo] The negotiations concluded last year when all recompas [rearmed former members of the Sandinist Peoples Army] and recontras demobilized. A civilian disarmament process through the [word indistinct] was left open and is still open. They are establishing a group and we want government authorities to meet with its members to discuss ways for them to surrender their weapons [words indistinct].

[Reporter] A negotiation is ruled out totally?

[Lacayo] Yes, because the recompas and recontras already demobilized. This is why I have asked the media not to use the word contras to refer to these groups. The

late Commander Franklin [Israel Galeano] said his mission was accomplished when he surrendered his rifle to Mrs. Chamorro in [words indistinct] in June 1990. The contras already demobilized.

[Reporter] [question indistinct]?

[Lacayo] Some are thieves and others armed civilians, but they are not contras.

[Reporter] Are they armed with Redeye missiles that used to belong to the contras?

[Lacayo] Yes, the contras used to have them; these people, however, are not contras. It is important to call things by their names.

[Reporter] [question indistinct]?

[Lacayo] It used to be a military base but it is now a training center. They used to be contras but are now either armed civilians or thieves. If they are armed civilians they should surrender their weapons; if they are thieves, I hope they will surrender them too.

[Reporter] Are they making political demands?

[Lacayo] Political demands coming from armed men are invalid because they are not political demands, but demands made by armed men. In a democracy, politicians do not make demands with weapons in hand.

[Reporter] In Pantasma, you said we must eradicate the culture of death. Cardinal Obando y Bravo said the same thing. Was this a coincidence?

[Lacayo] I am also a Christian. I believe that no one in Nicaragua wants people to kill each other. We fully agree with the cardinal in this regard and with all Nicaraguans who do not wish to see weapons circulating and people killing each other. I think if there were not so many weapons out there; if we managed to collect all weapons currently in civilian hands this year and destroyed them we would obviously have to settle disputes and differences in the courts. That is the framework of a legal state. We will continue to face a dangerous situation as long as 30,000 weapons remain in civilian hands. We must do something about this; people must learn a new culture; learn that it is not a weapon that will offer them protection. [end recording]

## Recontra Chief Urges Removal of Gen. Ortega

*PA2201220093 Managua Radio Catolica in Spanish 1100 GMT 22 Jan 93*

[Text] Commander Chacal, chief of the rearmed Nicaraguan Resistance [RN], has told the Nicaraguan Human Rights Association [ANPDH] that they will not lay down weapons until General Humberto Ortega is dismissed. The ANPDH issued a press release reporting on the meeting with Commander Chacal.

It stated: Concerned about the continuation of violence in rural areas, especially in the country's northern departments, and about the well-known military campaigns, ANDPH representatives met with Commander Chacal. He explained that his group did not take up weapons to make new demands on the Nicaraguan Government but only to make sure the government complies with the commitments it made to the RN during the demobilization. According to Chacal, the reorganization of the police and the Sandinist People's Army and the removal of Gen. Humberto Ortega are necessary conditions for compliance with those commitments, especially those dealing with the security of demobilized individuals. Asked about the danger of restarting a war, which would have inevitable unfortunate consequences on the peasants, Commander Chacal replied that they will not lay down their weapons because residents of certain cities are experiencing peace while in rural areas very little has changed and too many demobilized, defenseless individuals have been killed.

## Diplomatic Corps Briefed on Reactivation Program

*PA2201222593 Managua Sistema Nacional de Television Network in Spanish 0230 GMT 22 Jan 93*

[Passages within quotation marks are recorded]

[Text] Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo and other cabinet members met with members of the diplomatic corps to explain the economic reactivation program, the return to normal at the National Assembly, and the civilian disarmament program. The Nicaraguan Government appealed to the international community to support the disarmament program in 1993.

The meeting between cabinet members and representatives of the diplomatic corps was held at the Foreign Ministry. The cabinet members explained the economic reactivation program and the Executive Branch's participation in returning the National Assembly to normal. Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo said they also explained the work done in 1992 by the Special Disarmament Brigade [BED] and its plans for 1993.

[Lacayo] "Just as the international community supports us in economic and social programs, we appealed to it to support the Nicaraguan Government and the BED efforts to remove those weapons still in civilian hands and thus guarantee the economic reactivation program and the conclusion of the civilian disarmament program."

Lacayo said the Nicaraguan Government currently has the support of Italy and the Netherlands to guarantee the BED's work through March, during which period it will recover only 15,000 weapons.

[Lacayo] "We hope that with this appeal, other governments will join this effort. The ambassadors obviously have to inform their countries and receive instructions from their capitals. We are sure, however, that additional countries will join this important effort because the sum we are requesting is modest."

Regarding the disarmament plans, the government wants to seize between 30,000 and 40,000 weapons still in civilian hands.

[BED Chief Colonel Ramon Ernesto Soza] "The essential problem is that we do not have sufficient funds for the operation. The government can only finance the BED for three more months. Such financing will lead to the seizure of approximately 10,000 weapons."

To guarantee the seizure and confiscation of all weapons in civilian hands, the Nicaraguan Government requires help from the international community.

[Lacayo, in progress] "...from the operating expenses of the BED, then the food or the cash exchanged for the weapons, and some additional benefits granted to guarantee the seizure and destruction of all these weapons. We are estimating this would cost approximately 30 to 35 million cordobas. We are sure that this would conclude this phase. We hope we will be able to do this in the first months of 1993."

After the meeting, the Mexican charge d'affaires expressed support for the Nicaraguan Government plan.

[Mexican Charge D'Affaires Jose Borjon] "We foreigners believe that Nicaragua is on the right track and deserves the support of the international community so that more jobs will be created. This will ensure that their sacrifice will not just be for the sake of sacrifice, as President Clinton said on 20 January. Sacrifice should have an objective, which is to help economic and social development. We believe this is very important to bring stability and order to a society."

The diplomatic corps reacted positively to Nicaragua's disarmament plan, which is unique and an example in the world. Other countries are interested in applying it through the United Nations.

## * Ministerial Corruption, 'Scandal' Viewed

*93CA0049A Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 9 Dec 92 p 4*

[Commentary by Gustavo A. Flores M.]

[Text] In the two years and six months that Violeta de Chamorro's government has been in power in our country, it has been marked by political blunders, economic scandals, social insensitivity, and violations of the political constitution and secondary laws established by the previous administration and adapted to a country in need of political, social, and economic stability for the people.

Without any political experience whatsoever, Mrs. Chamorro has tried from the very beginning to play cards that were very difficult to handle, even for a seasoned politician, trying to fool the Yankees, the Sandinists, the Contras, and the people in general. While she did manage to fool some, she could not fool the others, so that in the end her little game made no one happy. However, those who have been hurt the most are the working people, who always end up footing the bill.

From the very beginning, Mrs. Chamorro has surrounded herself with people hostile to her and her plans of government. The most striking example is an ambitious, corrupt, unpopular vice president who has taken it into his head to become president at any cost, going so far as to ally himself with the most unrepentant backers of American imperialism.

Next comes: a vice minister of the presidency with a criminal record who stole millions of cordobas from the people; a mayor of Managua and member of the "white hand" in Leon under Somoza who looted and continues to loot the people's money; a Central Bank president who boycotts payments to other banks in order to sow discontent among producers and generate anarchy and economic chaos.

Then there is: a president of the National Assembly who has repeatedly shown himself to be a traitor and who is ambitious, corrupt, and an enemy of the Nicaraguan people, doing his best to unseat the government and sow anarchy and chaos in our country; a minister of government who used his position to give support to the specific objective just outlined.

They are joined by: a minister of agriculture and livestock who obtains loans abroad and announces the fact with great pomp, but the money never reaches the producers and instead is nearly all allocated to enterprises in which he is the majority shareholder.

Plus: a minister of labor who is such an enemy of the working class that even though he is a lawyer, he does not know international labor law (case of the lottery ticket vendors) and who, in advance and just because he felt like it, declared the strikes illegal, squeezing the last drop out of his political juggling for the benefit of the exploiters of this country.

And finally: a neofascist minister of education who has sown chaos in education, affecting thousands of young protagonists of the new society and denying rights won through great sacrifice by ANDEN [National Association of Nicaraguan Teachers] members.

### Administrative Disaster

In short, it is a total administrative disaster that for all practical purposes is leading us to anarchy, chaos, and the total destruction of our country, all in the name of democracy, because of democracy and for neoliberal democracy.

These are the sad facts, the product of a social phenomenon never before recorded in the annals of Nicaraguan history or the contemporary world, the result of the past elections in which a people sick of the criminal war imposed by the American Government were forced, as their only alternative, to vote for a candidate totally

unaware of reality and therefore incapable of transforming it. With their university diplomas in hand, those surrounding Mrs. Chamorro have taken advantage of that ignorance to steal and grab anything they could, not caring a whit about the damage they were doing to an entire people who cannot even lay their hands on enough money to buy a glass of cold water!

It is absolutely barbarous what has been done by those mad for revenge, the insatiable economists, those who feel nothing when confronted with the whole range of social problems, the hunger and poverty endured by Nicaraguans.

It is never too late to start, but we have to begin at the beginning: Mrs. Chamorro must set to work in order to obtain a better academic background, mastering the basic issues she has to know as president, even learning to read well and write her own speeches.

She must remove from their posts those ministers and officials still in government and replace them with honest professionals motivated by patriotic feelings who will do honor to the slogan "We are all following the blue and white road." They must follow the propaganda phrase of "The Revolution of Honesty" because the people of Nicaragua know that 80 percent of all high government officials have a dubious claim on honesty.

## * Leftist Punitive Forces Denounced

*93CA0049D Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 3 Dec 92 p 13*

[Commentary by Carlos F. Chamorro B.]

[Text] According to Larousse's "Illustrated Dictionary," "punitive" has to do with punishment. For the average Nicaraguan, it means, more precisely, "to send the bill."

The circulation last week of an underground flyer in which the so-called Leftist Punitive Forces claim credit for the "execution" of Arges Sequeira and making death threats against other prominent rightists cannot go unnoticed by anyone, much less those of us who claim that the existence of a democratic, revolutionary left as an unavoidable political reality is indispensable for the construction of the new Nicaragua.

Regardless of whether or not the subscribers to that and other bulletins that circulated yesterday are leftist extremists who practice a pseudorevolutionary rhetoric, reactionary rightist provocateurs or—why not?—elements planted or infiltrated by the CIA, the left is forced to establish a position of principles in order to close off all possible avenues of ambiguity.

While the police are investigating the leads and discovering the real motives for the crime, I would like to give my own personal reflections.

In Latin America, leftist forces have always identified with programmed political motives that have also been praiseworthy: national liberation, anti-imperialism, socialism, social redemption. Furthermore, based on the historic conditions in which they have emerged, their methods of struggle have been armed, civic, political, electoral, or a combination of all of them. However, to the best of my knowledge, there has never been a force which, transcending all other considerations, has defined itself as "castigatory."

In Nicaragua, as we approach the year 2000, when historic circumstances determine that the armed struggle is no longer valid, it is to a certain extent understandable that the desperate conditions in which most of the people live, their unemployment and poverty worsened by a climate of political revenge, the police repression, may finally force certain sectors of the population to resort to violence or adopt positions of force in the fight for their social demands.

No order, coalition or constitution can overshadow the social conflict or prevent such situations from occurring for long. Only solving serious socioeconomic problems—beginning with the problem of property—ensuring the people's participation in the integral democratization of society, and strengthening democratic institutions respected by all, will eradicate violence permanently.

This may be a utopia some deem not worthwhile fighting for. Others may think there are shorter paths to its achievement.

However, there is a world of difference between such beliefs and watching an anonymous group speak on behalf of the left and coolly appropriate the right to take the law into its own hands, set terrorist bombs, and wage a witch-hunt for rightists, claiming credit for a murder committed in cold blood.

### Death Squadrons?

What difference would there then be between a punitive force of the left and another of the right? For all practical purposes, none. In the worst of all worlds, if the forces mentioned should be formed, then the country would be at the mercy of death squadrons like those that for so many years devastated Guatemala.

Nor does the fact that Sequeira's death occurred at the peak of a verbal campaign of rightist elements that send Sandinists to the firing wall—after over 300 comrades have been murdered without the nation's self-proclaimed moral champions finding out—justify the crime or free us from the responsibility of condemning it.

We—I am speaking as a Sandinist—cannot compare ourselves with the right, which ignores and applauds the existence of Recontras [Contras incorporated into the government] who continue to besiege and bloody the country in rural areas in the central and northern regions. The mere idea of tolerating the possibility of a punitive force, whatever its intention or ideological orientation, amounts to an act of reckless complicity with irresponsible parties who propose the abolition of the Sandinist People's Army (EPS)

in order to make way for the creation of their own private armies and the conversion of the police into an eminently repressive organ.

The ambiguity and lack of any position on this matter by leftist leaders at all levels is disturbing because the political vacuum that produces silence tends to lend legitimacy to a a temptation alien to our oft-vilified political culture. We Nicaraguans are accused of being rebellious and of seeking confrontation, for we have always rightly identified with just causes of rebellion. However, it has never been our way to resolve profound political or social differences by attacking and physically eliminating our adversaries.

Only a dictatorial, criminal regime such as that of Somoza institutionalizes political assassinations as a standard of conduct. My father, Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Cardenal, was one of the victims who suffered the most from that abhorrent system.

I would like to believe that all this business about "punitive" forces is nothing but a macabre joke played by a few deranged minds and that the police will soon clear up the motives behind Sequeira's murder. Until then, I trust that no matter who the guilty party may be, the nation's forces will unite in demanding that he be punished to the full extent of the law.

## * Need To Privatize Utilities Questioned

*93CA0049B Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 10 Dec 92 p 4*

[Commentary by Ernesto Orozco B.]

[Text] Our people in general are extremely concerned about the announcement that public service enterprises that are particularly sensitive and whose benefits are eminently social are about to be privatized: the INE [Nicaraguan Institute of Energy], INAA [Nicaraguan Waterworks and Sewer Systems Institute], TELCOR [Nicaraguan Telecommunications and Postal Service], and other similar firms.

We wonder whether the government is on a "privatization binge" or whether this is an order from the Yankees that has to be obeyed.

The announcement is so insane that it causes amazement and bewilderment. After all, never before have light and water or the telephone been privately owned. Such a change, which is not only social but political as well, is of prime concern because it is of concern to private parties when a given community is without light, water, or telephone service. They care only about profits, never the social aspect of the problem. In other words, they are solely interested in projects that are commercially profitable, never the people's problems. Nor can the government require a private company to develop projects in areas that would incur losses.

Moreover, all the promises made by the UNO [National Opposition Union] campaign to our country's barrios and towns dealt with those precise services.

In order for a country such as ours to begin to recover economically, it must have the most important element: electricity, and it must be cheap. What good is it to have expensive electricity? It cannot be used in the factories, much less for irrigation in the country or in homes (when we speak of the country, we are speaking of the country's economy), very few factories are still operating in the cities. Last summer, we had practically no electricity because it was cut off every two hours. All these losses add up. What company could compete with its products or even survive under such conditions? In order to speak of recovery, we must have a supply of cheap electricity because, without question, we Nicaraguans pay more for our light and water than anyone else in the world. Since these are indispensable services, the government survives by adding rate increase after rate increase while the unemployed people (because of UNO) struggle and starve.

### COPALAR and Other Sources of Energy

I do not know what happened to the COPALAR [expansion not given] project and its other sources of energy, which were to form a huge power network that would be completed by 1993. We were even going to sell electricity to neighboring Central American countries. This was one of the major projects of the Sandinist government, along with the Chiltepe dairy project, which would have the capacity and quality to sell service to all of Central America. Unfortunately and erroneously, this UNO government has consistently believed that everything that Sandinism did was bad and had to be changed or thwarted.

### Somocism With Key Enterprises for Recovery and Social Planning

The reported owners of these monstrous companies are said to be Somocists in Miami from whom they were allegedly unjustly seized. We Nicaraguans know very well the sad story of such individuals. Those not guilty of murdering the people set about cleaning out all the money from the banks and businesses. Those who stayed a while longer managed to obtain bank loans to "reactivate" the factories and rural properties. Loans were not denied them, but were objectively and indiscriminately granted based on trust in the purposes of all rural and city producers. Such loans were then exchanged for dollars and taken to Miami, in most cases in amounts far exceeding the worth of properties they had come to own fraudulently in 99 percent of all cases!

For those of us who have managed to survive all this, it will be very difficult to forget such a nightmare. Now they come along claiming their "properties." I do not deny that there may be a few—who could be counted on the fingers of one hand—whose properties were unjustly seized, but the fact is that we are seeing Somocism in living color. It has even been trying to convince the Yankee government to make its long-proclaimed "aid"

dependent upon the return of properties to the Somocists, a very touchy subject for Nicaraguans. But what would happen if the INE, INAA, TELCOR and other enterprises were returned to the Somocists? One does not have to be a prophet to foresee violent results when we are bent upon pacifying the country and calling on all sectors to join efforts for this purpose, on the one hand, and then, on the other, rubbing salt into fresh wounds. At such a time, one should not force anything. One cannot fail to keep promises or provoke responses. We shall see who is rewarded with the bonds because the people will be waiting, anxiously waiting, to see who will benefit from the bond plan. The big group will not blackmail anyone, but what is worrisome about all this is that the government announced a small fortune in order to compensate all the Somocists, big landowners, and fraudulently acquired enterprises. In contrast, thousands of us who lost everything in the Yankee war are simply waiting for some aid or compensation from the new government. Instead, we have seen how the United States was condoned and exonerated from what the entire world had ruled and—what is more important, in order to keep us from continuing to wallow in poverty as we are now—from the $17 billion that the United States was supposed to pay Nicaragua.

## Panama

### Bombs Placed Under Bridge on Road to Colon

*PA2401161993 Panama City Radio Exitosa in Spanish 1505 GMT 24 Jan 93*

[Text] [Unidentified reporter] We have been in the Gatun River area, near the bridge over the Gatun River, since midnight [0500 GMT] on 24 January, where members of the Public Force, state security organizations, Fire Department, and the Red Cross blocked the passage of vehicles to El Arranque, on the Colon side. On the side nearer to Panama City, near the Rio Gatun No. 2 School, vehicles were also stopped.

The roadblock was set up after an anonymous telephone call was made to warn of a bomb placed on the Gatun River bridge. We were there until 0200. The traffic jam was enormous because of the large number of persons who were traveling from Colon to Panama City, especially to Chorrera, since the Panama West baseball team was playing at the Roberto Mariano field. The team bus had to stop at Sabanitas. The line of traffic had already reached that point, approximately 8 km from the Gatun River.

In the early morning, we were with some Chinese friends celebrating the Chinese new year, the year of the cock, when we were told that two high-powered bombs had been placed on the bridge over the Gatun River.

Bomb experts arrived at the site and at approximately 0800 they defused one of the bombs. The other bomb, which is near the center of the structure—although it is not known how they placed it there—is in such a difficult position that, up to this moment, experts have not been able to defuse it. They continue to look for a way to set it off without affecting the structure of the bridge over the Gatun River.

Alcibiades Gonzalez, mayor of Gatun District, arrived at the site and stated his concern for the situation. It is not known who placed those explosive devices as no group has yet claimed responsibility for placing the two high-powered explosive devices on the structure over the Gatun River.

Anchorman Chino Serrano, is there anything else you would like to know?

[Serrano] What is the current situation in the area, where you say there is still a live bomb under the bridge?

[Reporter] Up to this moment, the Public Force and particularly the traffic department are not allowing anyone near the area. They are completely blocking the road near Limon Hill because they fear that, if the bomb goes off, persons too close to the area could be injured as it is a high-powered explosive. At this moment, experts and state security officials are trying to decide what steps to take. Because of the bomb's difficult position, it is hard for them to get near to look for the mechanism to defuse it.

Traffic has been blocked since 2130 on 23 January. As of now, 1010 on 24 January, it remains blocked.

I repeat, the road between Colon and Panama City is blocked in the Gatun River area. Passage is not allowed in either direction. Persons who were in Colon and who later sought to travel on the Transisthmian Highway were arrested because, in a drunken state, they refused to follow Public Force orders and tried to cross the bridge. They were arrested.

[Serrano] Has any group claimed responsibility for placing these explosive devices?

[Reporter] Up to this moment there is no information on that. We spoke to a group of persons near the area who knew of the affair and, up to this moment, no one has claimed responsibility for placing these two high-powered bombs under the Gatun River bridge. The common questions are who, why, and for what reason would anyone go to the extreme of trying to hurt such a problem stricken province as Colon Province by trying cut it off from the rest of the country.

### One Bomb Defused; Colon Mayor Comments

*PA2401190193 Panama City Radio Exitosa in Spanish 1754 GMT 24 Jan 93*

[Text] National Police and bomb experts have been trying to defuse, since the night of 23 January, two bombs placed under a bridge on the Transisthmian Highway, which runs parallel to the Panama Canal and is the land route between the country's two main cities.

The bombs were located on the night of 23 January under the Gatun River bridge after a warning from a local resident. According to official spokesmen, the

bombs were practically inaccessible. But they believed that one of them would soon be defused.

Colon Mayor Alcibiades Gonzales made the following statements for Radio Exitosa.

[Begin recording] [Gonzalez] The police have done a terrific job. We have to give full recognition to the police, the Police Investigation and Information Department bomb squad, and all the officers and policemen who have participated in this operation, which spanned several hours. Thank God, it has not cost any lives or caused damage. Order has definitely been restored.

I would like to take advantage of this opportunity to urge those persons who, in one way or another, have to and will make statements to the media to be very moderate and not cite this performance by the police as a great achievement. Such statements might challenge those daring enough to do this.

[Unidentified reporter] Who did it?

[Gonzalez] We do not really know who did it. The fact is that those who placed the bombs are hurting the country very much and I, personally, as a citizen, urge them to think it over, to speak through me, if necessary, to establish a dialogue to definitely restore peace and tranquillity to the Panamanian people.

The young men who placed those bombs should remember very clearly that it was not us politicians who went there to defuse them but their own counterparts, members of the police, who also have wives, children, and loved ones waiting for them at home. So, please, think this over and restore peace to Panama.

[Reporter] Is that a message for the current government?

[Gonzalez] It is a message for all Panamanians. Think about everything that is going on. We have the right to live in peace. We have the right to live in tranquillity, so everyone put his two cents in. I offer, if necessary, to mediate with any force that may think it is right and that it is being sidelined at this democratic moment, so that we may talk and reach an understanding to seek better days for Panama. [end recording]

Colon Mayor Alcibiades Gonzalez said those who placed the explosives did so to send a message that there is still time to talk. Otherwise, they would have set them off immediately. He gave no more details.

None of the 10 clandestine organizations that allegedly exist in Panama has claimed responsibility for placing the explosives, whose power the police has not established, according to an officer of that security corps questioned by Radio Exitosa.

We have to stress that the Transisthmian Highway has been reopened and vehicles are allowed to travel between Colon and Panama.

The second bomb has been defused and the third alleged bomb turned out to be a false alarm. Therefore, traffic has been reestablished on the Transisthmian Highway.

### Linares on Extraditions, U.S. Administration

*PA2201223093 Panama City Telemetro Television Network in Spanish 1730 GMT 22 Jan 93*

[Text] Foreign Minister Julio Linares will serve as acting labor minister beginning 25 January. He said problems related to extradition requests are undermining efforts to bring former dictatorship officials to trial in Panama.

[Begin recording] [Linares] Beginning on 25 January I will be acting labor and social welfare minister.

[Reporter] For how long?

[Linares] One week.

[Reporter] Do you think the policy toward Panama could change now that there is a new government in the United States, given that another party is now in charge?

[Linares] If there is indeed a change I hope it will lead to an improvement. That is what we are all expecting.

[Reporter] What extraditions are currently being processed?

[Linares] Several extraditions; several of them. The ones that come to mind are those against Rafael Arosemena and Messrs. Bernal and Wittgreen in Peru. There are several extraditions, including some that do not involve prominent politicians.

[Reporter] Not one political exile or fugitive has been brought back in the past three years. What is happening at the Foreign Ministry?

[Linares] Do you want me to tell you something? I have no trust in extraditions. I am not just saying this now. I said this before....[pauses] when these men, when the soldiers were holed up at the Peruvian Embassy in Panama, I was already saying—and this is on record—I do no trust extraditions. I am glad. Although this constitutes poor international practice, this is also the case with the United States. It opens the eyes of Panamanians to reality, because unfortunately, we view everything from a political standpoint in this country. For example, the Foreign Ministry should be criticized because one opposes the government or something to that effect. [end recording]

### Endara on Catholic Church, Corruption, Land Deeds

*PA2201223193 Panama City Telemetro Television Network in Spanish 1730 GMT 22 Jan 93*

[Report by Valerio Abrego from Santiago, Veraguas Province]

[Text] President Guillermo Endara, accompanied by members of his government, officially opened a cultural

center and distributed 200 land title deeds as part of the Family Heritage Program in La Mesa, Veraguas Province. The president voiced his satisfaction over this event because of its importance to Veraguas farmers.

Afterward, Endara traveled to Lola, a remote region of Veraguas, to officially open a public telephone booth. During his speech in Sona, the president reaffirmed the positive nature of his meeting with the Catholic Church and its impact on Panama's future. Endara, however, pointed out that he felt very disappointed when he learned the church would not present a list of corrupt officials.

The president said it was clearly established that there is complete separation between church and state, a situation that only holds true in democratic governments. Endara urged the next government to continue this democratic effort.

President Endara said there is general corruption in the government, in society, and elsewhere that at times cannot be prevented. This was what had been referred to by the church.

As for the distribution of land title deeds, Endara said the main duty of a democratic government, such as the current one, is to serve the community rather than its own interests. This is not the case with dictatorial governments, such as the previous one.

He announced the government will continue to process land registration requests free of charge until 31 July, at which time a fee will be imposed.

## PDC, Government Legislators Agree on ARI Reforms

*PA2301025893 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 22 Jan 93*

[Report by Fernando Fernandez]

[Text] The official bench and the opposition Christian Democratic Party [PDC] have reached an agreement to reform 47 articles of the draft of the Interoceanic Regional Authority, better known as ARI.

After turning down the minority report on the ARI draft proposed by Democratic Revolutionary Party legislators, the Legislative Assembly will now have to study the other reports, including the ARI Commission's and the PDC's.

[Begin recording] [Legislator Arturo Vallarino] Government representatives and PDC legislators have agreed to present a 16-page request for modification, which has a different point of view on what the ARI is to be. It complies, however, with what is intended: To give the country a legal instrument to administer, plan, and gain the most advantage from the properties reverted.

[Fernandez] Are there many differences between the reformed ARI and the original draft?

[Vallarino] Of course there are differences, because there are differing viewpoints. These new proposals eliminate special fiscal exemptions, as proposed originally. Instead they fall back on the basic rules comprised in the fiscal code. There are more strict rules to do with Legislative Assembly approval of the general plan on the use of these properties and the required ratification by two- thirds of the legislators who are members of the nine-man board of directors. [end recording]

Among the changes is the jurisdiction of reverted properties on the west bank of the canal, the inclusion of preparations to assume this responsibility, and the elimination of favoritism in bids.

## Local 907 Comments on Government-PDC ARI Bill

*PA2301202993 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 23 Jan 93 p 1*

[Report by Claudio Herrera J.]

[Text] Local 907 Secretary General Ray Bishop has stated that the government parties and the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] "plotted against the Panamanian people" when they agreed to support the draft bill that creates the Interoceanic Region Authority (ARI).

The leader of the union that comprises people who work on the U.S. military bases denied that Local 907 had been consulted in the debates to prepare the ARI draft bill.

The PDC parliamentary bloc, which was initially against the draft bill, decided to back the proposal after presenting a list of changes that included the Legislative Assembly's ratification of members of the ARI board of directors.

Several sources have reported that the PDC initiative opened the door to personalities such as Aura Feraud, PDC member and former solicitor general, to be considered as one of the candidates to the ARI board of directors.

Although Legislator Arturo Vallarino, member of the governmental Nationalist Liberal Republican Movement, Molirena, rejected criticism that the ARI board of directors will be made up of members of the "Panamanian oligarchy," Bishop denied there has been a proposal to include a Local 907 representative in the ARI hierarchy.

"We cannot understand how political parties and other unscrupulous officials can play Russian roulette with the Panamanians," Bishop reiterated. According to the union leader, the ARI will represent big business deals for those in charge of managing it. The ARI board of directors will evaluate and approve or reject the proposals for the rental, sale, and concessions in the reverted areas.

The opposition Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD) rejected the ARI draft bill. It presented a minority report that was rejected—37 votes against, eight in favor, and

one abstention—by the legislative plenary on 21 January. PRD Legislator Balbina Herrera has repeatedly urged authorities to present the ARI to a national debate.

Local 907 has asked the government to hold a referendum on the permanence of the eight U.S. military bases and other installations. The union also proposed that the government take measures to establish a retirement program with the Social Security Fund for the workers who will be dismissed with the U.S. departure.

Approximately 7,300 Panamanians work in the Panama Canal Commission, which is a U.S. Government branch, and 6,000 work on the U.S. military bases. Additionally, approximately 6,000 nationals work with contract firms, restaurants in military areas, and in domestic service.

The Association of Panama Canal Employees urged the Legislative Assembly to approve the ARI draft bill. It pointed out that the success of the organization will depend more on the quality of the citizens appointed to manage it than on the contents of the law.

A parliamentary source said that the majority report could be debated on 25 January "after the PDC and government reports are worked out."

## Ties Discovered Between Traffickers, Castro Regime

*PA2401144193 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 23 Jan 93 p 14-B*

[Report by Tomas A. Cabal]

[Text] In the next edition of the magazine MOMENTO, Argentine journalist Juan Carlos Galesio reports the connections that exist between Fidel Castro's Communist government and the Colombian drug cartels. The Argentine journalist's investigations reveal the use of the Colon Free Zone by Castroite Communist agents to launder drug money and to violate the U.S. economic embargo.

This network, as Galesio has proven, is controlled by fugitive American Robert Vesco with the support of former Americas Department Director Manuel "Barbaroja" Pineiro.

Documents obtained following the murder of Argentine businessman Enrique Melamed seem to prove the serious charges made by Galesio regarding the activities of Cubans at the Colon Free Zone. These documents reveal that Panamanian firms with branches in Havana receive millions of narcodollars that are later deposited in Panamanian and Spanish banks.

Intelligence reports reveal that Vesco, as pointed out by Colombian drug trafficker Carlos Lehder, has supervised the trafficking of cocaine from Cuba to the United States for over 10 years.

This network, formed by Colombian and Spanish drug traffickers and supervised by Cuban Interior Ministry agents, allows Fidel Castro to generate millions in foreign currency which he needs to keep his damaged economy afloat. This operation, as reliable sources in Miami and Madrid assert, has the personal support of the Castro brothers, who are charging $800,000 for every ship that enters Cuban territorial waters. According to our informers, airplanes flying in the island's airspace or stopping for fuel must pay a minimum of $200,000.

Ties between the Cuban Government and the Colombian drug cartels were first revealed during the 1980's, when U.S. authorities criminally prosecuted several members of the Cuban security apparatus. Lehder's statements during Manuel Antonio Noriega's trial confirmed those accusations.

During his lengthy testimony, Lehder explained how he had set up the drug trafficking network through Cuba and The Bahamas, with the cooperation of Robert Vesco, Raul Castro, and [Nicaragua's] Sandinist government.

## World Bank Recommends Labor Law Reforms

*PA2201222893 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 22 Jan 93 p 1*

[Report by Juan Pritsiolas]

[Text] A World Bank document, with a "restricted" circulation specification, indicates the Panamanian Government has to delete 19,000 positions from its payroll and recommends reforms be made to the labor law.

The report, entitled "World Bank Report and Recommendations on the Loan Request for Panama's Economic Recovery," dated January 1992, is more encompassing than the original document prepared by the Planning and Economic Policy Ministry for those agreements in October 1991.

The mentioned financial organization proposes that the number of government employees be reduced by 14 percent, which represents 19,000 employees. To this end, the report adds, payroll expenses should not exceed 820 million balboas in 1992 and 765 million balboas in 1993.

The 127-page document expounds that since the government decided to pay the 13th month bonus, it now has to accelerate the implementation of the economic program agreed to with the World Bank.

The World Bank also proposes several labor policy changes, such as curbing overtime payments, allowing firms to continue operating when their employees go on strike, and restricting compensations on unjustified dismissals.

The report also points out that the Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrification loses 26 percent of the electricity it generates and, thus, fails to receive 35 million balboas in income.

On 20 January, Guillermo Ford, the vice president of the Republic and former planning and economic policy

minister, admitted that Panama has not kept all the agreements reached with the international financial institutions (IFIS), which could cause delays in obtaining loans in 1993. The government will attempt to get more than 250 million balboas in disbursements from the IFIS during 1993.

### Visa Agreement Signed With Hungary

*PA2301032293 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 22 Jan 93*

[Text] The Panamanian and Hungarian governments signed an agreement that eliminates visas for diplomatic, official, or government service passports. The Hungarian Government expects to extend this agreement to regular passports too. Likewise, according to Hungarian spokesmen, they wish to establish economic relations with Panama. This is Hungary's first international agreement following its political and economic reforms.

### Commentary Compares Clinton To Roosevelt, Kennedy

*PA2201230993 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 22 Jan 93 p 1*

[From the "Panama's Pulse" column]

[Text] Clinton: There is a great deal of baseless speculation regarding President Clinton's future attitudes in dealing with Panama. Naively, our country believes it has a preeminence in the new president's agenda that it does not have. Clinton was elected, more than for any other reason, to straighten out the battered U.S. economy. He has to confront immediately international problems such as those in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Iraq, and Somalia. The rest, except for an unexpected crisis, will have to wait.

Carter: Clinton is already being criticized for having chosen several former Carter administration officials to handle his foreign policy. It is true that Carter had close dealings with the Panamanian dictatorship, despite his oft spoken support of human rights. Our memories of him are unpleasant. We must wait and see, however, if his former collaborators will turn around U.S. policy toward the heirs to the narcotyranny.

Roosevelt and Kennedy: It is convenient to include in this analysis the names of two Democratic U.S. presidents: Franklin D. Roosevelt and John F. Kennedy. Both are affectionately remembered in Panama. The former fostered a good neighbor policy toward Latin America and, through the Arias-Roosevelt Treaty, ended the protectorate status Panama had from 1903. Kennedy formed the Alliance for Progress to promote social change throughout the continent. With regard to the isthmus, Clinton may well draw more inspiration from their courses of action than from Carter's.

## Argentina

### Government To Seek UN Security Council Seat

*PY2501125593 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1126 GMT 25 Jan 93*

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Jan (NA)—In 1993 Argentina will try to become a member of the UN Security Council. The Foreign Ministry has outlined an "election plan" to obtain the necessary support.

The Security Council has the greatest political clout in the United Nations and is made up of five permanent members with vetoing power—the United States, Russia, Great Britain, France, and China—and another 10 nations that are rotated after a 2-year tenure.

The Argentine Government intends to obtain one of those 10 seats for the 1994-95 period and has already started to study the way to obtain the necessary support in the voting that will take place between September and November when the General Assembly is meeting.

This is the second time since President Carlos Menem came to power that the country has tried to obtain a seat on the Security Council after the failure in 1991.

On that occasion Argentina withdrew its candidacy after it was observed that several countries were not willing to vote for the country due to its withdrawal from the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and its alignment with the United States.

Argentina must first [words indistinct] with Honduras, because the Security Council membership is granted by regions and the Latin American and Caribbean candidacy is from the bloc of that region's countries.

### Menem Contacts Clinton, Suggests Meeting

*PY2401234793 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 24 Jan 93 p 4*

[Text] Pinamar (DYN-NA)—President Carlos Menem met yesterday in this coastal city with Provisional Senate head, his brother, Eduardo Menem and Buenos Aires Governor Eduardo Duhalde in what was officially described as a "rest day" but in which the head of state analyzed the ongoing confrontation with the Radical Party, sources said.

A local news agency reported that with Duhalde and his brother the President analyzed ways to reopen the political dialogue with the Radicals.

Menem arrived here from Bariloche on the Tango-04 presidential plane which landed in the nearby resort of Villa Gesell.

Late Friday night the President sent a letter to United States President Bill Clinton, inviting him to build on bilateral relations and suggesting a meeting in the near future. In his letter to Clinton, Menem also invited the U.S. head of state to visit Argentina, Buenos Aires daily CLARIN reported.

Menem told Clinton that "Argentina was ready to continue to carry out the pledges we have made," adding that "I'm convinced it would be very useful to analyze things through personal contact, just as I had the opportunity to do with your predecessor." Menem also sent a note to former U.S. President George Bush.

In Bariloche Menem stated that he was planning to meet Clinton for the first time in September during the annual assembly of the United Nations. He added that before that date he would carry out "numerous contacts with the Democrat administration."

Menem listed the Mercosur [Common Market of the South], the America's Initiative and Argentina's membership of the MTCR [Missile Technology Control Regime] missile control regime as the main points in his agenda for a potential meeting with Clinton.

Finally, commenting on Argentine Armed Forces' participation in UN peacekeeping forces in the former Yugoslavia and other regions, Menem said that "as both our countries share common values, to work closely with the U.S. is a natural choice for Argentina."

### PAL, Radical Party Create Anti-Menem Alliance

*PY2201210593 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 22 Jan 93 pp 1, 11*

[Text] Corrientes (DYN-NA)—In a bid to oppose federal intervention of the province, the Autonomist-Liberal Pact (PAL) and the Radical Party yesterday created the Democratic Front for the Freedom of Corrientes, a local news agency reported.

The newly created front staged a protest march which started from the Plaza Cabral and ended in the 25 de Mayo square. The alliance is seen as a first step toward reaching an accord with the Radical Party to run joint candidates in next year's elections and to create an anti-Menem coalition for 1995, PAL sources said.

Only a day after President Carlos Menem made the drastic decision of extending the federal intervention in this province to the legislative branch, Liberal Provincial Deputy Jose Alberto Garay charged that the Justicialist Party paid Radical elector Ramon Tabere Bruzzo 1.5 million dollars [as published] to skip Saturday's key Electoral College session.

Federal trustee Claudia Bello meanwhile said that the federal government would also appoint trustees in the districts here which present "administrative irregularities" or those that tamper with the "government's economic adjustment plan."

Bello tried to downplay the measure and did not fix a date for the potential interventions, but sources said that

a draft of the plan was already being analyzed. The Liberal-Autonomist Pact (PAL) controls 52 of the 62 provincial districts.

"We will analyze the matter but we have made no decision yet," the trustee said. She added that "I don't not know of" [as published] any intervention of the three branches that did not also affect provincial districts.

In a press statement PAL leader Jose Antonio Romero Feris said that his party would "fight for Corrientes autonomy" and claimed that Menem made the decision to achieve his re-election.

Bello denied the allegations and said that the Radical Party would have to answer for "Buzzo's absence" and that Garay would have to take his claims to the courts.

The Federal Capital committee currently headed by Rafael Pascual held Interior Minister Gustavo Beliz responsible for Bruzzo's last-minute decision to miss the college session. In a communique issued yesterday the Radicals said that Beliz "had politically managed the operation" to convince Bruzzo not to attend the meeting.

Garay in turn told the press that on December 24 a Peronist politician from the city of Goya, whom he did not identify but described as "the (man) who manages the funds for the Justicialist Party electoral campaigns," phoned Bruzzo's home, leaving him a message that "everything that has been arranged would be carried out."

Garay said that he got the information from Bruzzo's cousin and from neighbours of the elector. "We have no doubts that Bruzzo was blackmailed," he added.

The legislators added two hours before the college session Bruzzo met with Radical candidate Noel Breard and told him "there are five grand for us, we give you two, one-and-a-half to (Radical Elector Carlos) Luque and one-a-half for me, and we stop messing around and put an end to this matter."

Bruzzo failed to show up at an Electoral College meeting where observers said Breard was set to be elected governor.

Garay said that Breard told him about the conversation and that the Radical candidate had refused the offer to throw the election.

Radical Deputy Leopoldo Moreau meanwhile said that Menem's decision to revoke the results of the December 20 elections in this province "was cause for his impeachment." Senator Fernando de la Rua blasted the President for "destroying judicial security, leaving the institutions at his mercy."

The Democratic Progressive Party [PDP] echoed the Radicals' outrage. In a communique signed by legislator Alberto Natale the PDP called for the interpellation of Beliz.

Early yesterday the Corrientes legislature was closed down amid tight security after it was evicted following government orders.

Jorge Torresi, former justice undersecretary here, is the new trustee of the provincial parliament. Reactions to the measure included statements by Democratic Centre Union national Deputy Federico Clerici, who said that the province was not going through an institutional crisis but blamed the problems on Justicialist, Radical and PAL politicians." [no beginning quotation marks as published]

### Alfonsin Lambastes Intervention

*PY2401234893 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 24 Jan 93 p 4*

[Text] Corrientes (DYN-NA)—A majority of this province's cabinet resigned yesterday in a formal move aimed at facilitating the second stage of Federal Trustee Claudia Bello's intervention here. Meanwhile, former President Raul Alfonsin, who had up until now remained silent on the whole Corrientes issue, lampooned the government calling its intervention "dirty and dictatorial."

Economy Minister, Eduardo Curia, her Education and Culture minister Luis Acosta Rivellini, Justice Minister Rodolfo Vacchiano, Agriculture and Industry Minister Gaston Figueroa Alcorta and Health Minister Miguel Angel Lico all resigned yesterday thereby allowing Bello to select a new cabinet for the second stage of her administration which is scheduled to last until September this year.

Bello may name her new ministers today, but no substantial change of tack is expected in her administration.

Ex-President Alfonsin yesterday broke his silence on the government's intervention in Corrientes. He affirmed that the cancelling of the election result "brings out yet again the government's lust for political dominance and its complete lack of democratic pretension."

Alfonsin pointed to the government's intervention in Santiago del Estero and Avellaneda as proof that when Menem's preferred candidate does not win an election, he leaves it to the courts to ensure he gets the desired result.

Alfonsin was highly critical of Interior Minister Gustavo Beliz who he said, far from having an unparalleled reputation, had already blotted his copybook twice by cancelling the results of the elections and intervening in the province.

Beliz was the recipient yesterday of a letter sent by Autonomous Liberal Pact Senator Jose Antonio Romero Feris who requested "urgent new measures" to deal with the "fragrant violations of justice" which are going on in some Corrientes districts. The Radical electors in turn proposed to run a ballotage to solve the province's deadlocked elections.

Romero Feris, brother of PAL [Liberal Autonomous Pact] governor candidate Raul Romero Feris, said that no sooner had the local constitutional convention denounced federal interference in many districts, than the police were back "snooping around."

Romero Feris considered the police interference "a clear case of political intimidation" as 50 of the 67 districts are governed by PAL.

Not content with fighting PAL's case with the interior minister, Romero Feris plans to appeal before the local Supreme Court in an attempt to overturn the federal intervention in the province, an attempt which Alfonsin had earlier called "a waste of time since the result (of the court hearing) is a formality."

Romero Feris has called on six of the judges, involved in previous decisions overturning the 1991 elections, to stand down while the appeal is presented. He said their clear pro-Menem leanings will prevent them from viewing the appeal with impartiality.

The senator said the six judges Ricardo Levene, Mariano Cavagna Martinez, Rodolfo Barra, Arturo Moline O'Connors, Julio Nazareno and Rodolfo Boggiano, who are all "dignified and delicately natured people," should stand down to give the appeal a fair hearing.

### Poll Shows Growth in Popularity of Government

*PY2201220393 Buenos Aires Radio Nacional Network in Spanish 1500 GMT 22 Jan 93*

[Text] A poll recently conducted in the federal capital and in greater Buenos Aires indicates that 40 percent of Argentines think that the latest cabinet reshuffle is a positive move, while 41 percent believe the national economy is improving.

The poll also indicates that 45 percent of the public believe President Carlos Menem has a positive image. This number is 2 percent higher than that registered in a poll conducted in November. The economy minister's image also improved by 2 percent. Fifty-one percent of those consulted said Cavallo's image is positive.

The poll, which was conducted by the Graciela Romeri and Associates Studio, also indicates that compared with July 1992 the national government's image has improved, while the areas in which ministers were replaced have improved considerably although they are still not perfect.

Regarding the replacement of the labor, interior, and education ministers, 40 percent of the 510 people consulted believe it was a positive move; 29 percent had no opinion; and 11 percent considered it negative.

## Brazil

### Franco Picks Yeda Crusius as Planning Minister

*PY2201185093 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 1500 GMT 22 Jan 93*

[Text] Former Sao Paulo Mayor Luiza Erundina, from the Workers' Party [PT], has accepted being the new federal administration secretary.

Luiza Erundina accepted at noon today the invitation made by President Itamar Franco. The president immediately phoned the news to the government leaders in Congress. The president, who did not discuss his choice of Luiza Erundina with the PT, said he did not do so because it was not a political or partisan choice, but an administrative decision. Itamar said he chose her so that she can contribute to the recovery of the federal administration and to improving the quality of public service.

As an advocate of the parliamentarian government system, President Itamar thinks the public administration should have a stable structure to guarantee the parliamentarian government system. Luiza Erundina will meet President Itamar tomorrow at 1500 in Brasilia.

Tomorrow morning the president will receive economist Yeda Crusius in Brasilia to invite her to become the next planning minister. Crusius is supposed to arrive in Brasilia tonight. She will be in charge of short-and long-term planning, while Finance Minister Paulo Haddad will administer the country's everyday economy by looking after, according to the president, the National Treasury, the Central Bank, public banks, the foreign debt, and the everyday administration of inflation.

Crusius and Haddad have been friends for the past 23 years. They had lunch together on 21 December in Porto Alegre, and Crusius calls the finance minister Paulinho. She is also a friend of the government leader in the Senate, Senator Pedro Simon. She worked with him on a team of economists that counseled the PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement Party]. A short while ago Pedro Simon said she is an excellent choice and that she and the planning minister will work with total tranquility.

Professor Yeda Crusius is 42, married, and has two children. She was born in Sao Paulo, but she is living in Rio Grande Sul. She is considered to be a simple, organized person with a very good sense of humor. She has graduate and postgraduate degrees from the USP [University of Sao Paulo], and she also obtained a masters degree in the United States. She has been director of the Economic Sciences Faculty of Rio Grande do Sul Federal University in Porto Alegre, and she is currently professor of macroeconomy at that university.

Crusius, who arrived at the university at 1030 today, spent the morning cleaning up her office. She has been an economy professor for the past 23 years. Despite saying that she did not receive any official invitation to become planning minister, Crusius did not waste time.

She picked up some files on subjects she considers important and a book she wrote together with other economists about inflation. She said she is ready to leave for Brasilia. She spoke about the Planning Ministry:

[Begin Crusius recording] A ministry like the Planning Ministry, which must deal with long-term strategies, is responsible for the whole public budget, and whose main reason for existing is to design, together with the government team, a long-term strategy, cannot be occupied by a person who wants to impose his own ideas. However, if his ideas, whoever is called to Brasilia, are compatible with the direction given so far by the Itamar administration, and if the person is willing to follow it, the person can undoubtedly occupy the post. [end recording]

Meanwhile, the new federal administration secretary, Luiza Erundina, was born in the interior of Paraiba State. She is 58 and single. For many years Luiza Erundina has been a social worker. In 1979 she helped found the PT. She has been a councilwoman, state deputy, and mayor of Sao Paulo in the last four years.

### Crusius Against 'Totally Free Market'

*PY2301175893 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 1500 GMT 23 Jan 93*

[Excerpts] Economist Yeda Crusius is the new planning minister. She accepted the invitation made by President Itamar Franco this morning in Brasilia. [passage omitted]

Crusius entered Planalto Palace by the back door. Half an hour later she was officially appointed planning minister, as confirmed by a long handshake with the president. Sitting between the finance minister and the BNDES [National Bank for Economic and Social Development] president, Yeda Crusius stressed that she is a minister on a team.

She said there is no contradiction in a development and inflation control strategy. The two things go together, she said. She guaranteed there would be no government coup against inflation, a struggle in which the whole society must participate:

[Begin Crusius recording] The government cannot be responsible for a single and definite solution. Inflation and recession will not end without the participation of society. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Crusius does not doubt that she was asked to be minister because she is a woman. She has known she would be a minister since December, but she kept silent until 20 January when Senator Pedro Simon, government leader in the Senate, officially invited her to the post.

Crusius advocates Keynesian economics, which is exactly the opposite of what was preached by the former administration. The new planning minister does not believe in a totally free market:

[Begin Crusius recording] My belief is that a totally free market is utopian. The market needs coordination so that different ideas and contradictions among groups may be guided by a government elected by the people. This is to prevent or reduce any possible negative effect of a free market through government action. [end recording]

### Government To Act Politically in Feud With U.S.

*PY2301123193 Sao Paulo in Portuguese 22 Jan 93 Economy Section p 7*

[Article by Aldo Renato Soares]

[Text] Brasilia—The Brazilian Government will not resort to using GATT against the U.S. Commerce Department's decision to impose surtaxes on Brazilian steel exports. Instead of resorting to GATT, Itamaraty will increase political actions with the new U.S. Government in order to overcome the steel feud between the two countries. During the last 30 days, the United States filed seven lawsuits against Brazilian iron and steel companies.

Itamaraty sources yesterday told O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO's Brasilia bureau that it would be very difficult for a GATT-sponsored Brazilian action against Washington to be successful. The sources explained that the U.S. Department of Commerce very seldom makes procedural mistakes that might weaken the U.S. stance. The sources said: "At GATT, any type of allegation must conform to concrete points, and the Americans are very experienced in dodging the rules." Another reason for Brazil to avoid resorting to GATT is the wear and tear of long and counterproductive lawsuits.

Six years ago, Brazil resorted to using GATT against the United States over the imposition of surtaxes on Brazilian shoes, and the action was useless. The U.S. Department of Commerce imposed a surtax on Brazilian shoes without proving damage to U.S. industry. In addition, the surtax only harmed Brazil, without disturbing the deals of other shoe-exporting countries. In this case, the U.S. Government violated GATT rules by imposing a surtax without proving damages and by discriminating (punishing one country alone). Brazil's action with regard to GATT was successful, but, nevertheless, the surtax still was effective for one more year. The diplomat said: "The GATT condemnation has a rather moral effect and, at the most, the harmed country may retaliate against the country imposing the surtax."

The 142-percent surtax imposed on 19 January by the U.S. Department of Commerce on lead-steel bar exports, as an antidumping [preceding word in English] measure, was a final decision. Fifteen days ago, the U.S. Government imposed the surtax as a preliminary measure. As the Brazilian manufacturers dropped the lawsuit, considering it exhausting, the U.S. Department of Commerce upheld the decision. The 142 percent reflects on the normal import duties. In other words, if the import duties are 5 percent, the total duties imposed on the product will be 14.7 [as published] percent.

Foreign Minister Fernando Henrique Cardoso, the Itamaraty head, is concerned about the U.S. protectionist drive and will use his personal prestige to convince the White House to be more lenient toward Brazil. In June 1992, the U.S. Government filed 80 antidumping [preceding word in English] lawsuits against 20 steel exporting countries. In the 1980's, Brazil managed to export 40 percent of its production to the U.S. market. Nowadays, Brazil barely exports 10 percent.

### Senators Urge Franco To Support PRC, Taiwan Joining GATT

*PY2201213593 Brasilia Voz do Brasil Network in Portuguese 2100 GMT 21 Jan 93*

[Text] PRN [National Reconstruction Party] Senator Ney Maranaho delivered today to President Itamar Franco a document signed by 81 senators requesting government support for the PRC and Taiwan to join the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs, GATT, which eliminates customs barriers and promotes imports and exports among member countries.

Senator Maranhao said that the PRC's joining GATT will give Brazil more chances to attract foreign investment, as the PRC's exchange reserves amount to $94 billion.

Maranhao said that the president promised to support the Senate decision, and that he submitted the document to the Foreign Ministry for analysis of technical matters.

### Franco Shelves Plan for Angra-3 Nuclear Plant

*PY2401003693 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 22 Jan 93 Section 1 p 4*

[Text] President Itamar Franco yesterday decided that the Angra-3 Nuclear Power Plant, in Angra dos Reis (154 km from Rio de Janeiro), will not be built "under any circumstances" during his administration. Planalto Palace did not say what it would do with the equipment the government has already imported for the plant.

Franco made the decision not to build Angra-3 after Furnas [Furnas Electric Power Plants, Inc.] President Marcelo Siqueira told him that the maintenance of Angra-2 costs $10 million a month, even though construction has been interrupted.

Presidential Press Adviser Francisco Baker said the decision "has only confirmed Franco's opposition to the nuclear program, a position he has maintained since he was in the Senate."

Baker said the president will spend the weekend studying reports on Angra-2 produced by the Science and Technology and Mines and Energy Ministries, by EMFA (Armed Forces General Staff), and by SAE (Strategic Affairs Secretariat). On Monday Franco should announce what the government plans to do with Angra-2.

Baker said that Franco was informed that the German Government is interested in a new agreement with Brazil on Angra-2 but could not say anything about the terms of the new agreement. Baker did not say what the government's options on Angra-2 are, either.

The adviser said that any decision would be officially communicated to Congress.

The Angra-3 nuclear power plant is an old government problem. The project ate up $1.1 billion in excavation costs alone, even before anything could be constructed. In the area where the plant is to be located there is now only a giant hole. The Brazilian nuclear program, initiated by former President Ernesto Geisel in 1975, provided for the construction of eight nuclear power plants.

The Collor administration had already decided that Angra-3 was impracticable. In 1991 Brazil attempted to sell the equipment purchased for Angra-3 to Iran, but Germany's opposition forced it to withdraw the offer, as the Brazilian nuclear program is being carried out in cooperation with that country.

## Chile

### RN Nominates Manuel Feliu for President

*PY2501022893 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Imagen Internacional in Spanish 2330 GMT 24 Jan 93*

[Excerpt] The nomination of Manuel Feliu as presidential hopeful for the National Renewal [RN] has changed the political situation within this party. Although Feliu, who is a businessman, said that his nomination is not aimed at resolving the crisis within the RN, mamy people believe that his nomination will alleviate the fierce internal squabbles.

Yesterday, the RN leadership underwent a very difficult political test: It had to attain internal unity in the course of a general convention polarized by two factions constantly vying for supremacy, one led by Sergio Onofre Jarpa and the other by Sebastian Pinera.

The party, however, came up with a good solution to the crisis. It nominated an independent candidate. Senator Mario Rios thus withdrew his bid for nomination, and Manuel Feliu went to the Diego Portales Building with a 19-page acceptance speech under his arm. There his nomination was approved by acclamation by the RN delegates, a condition that Feliu had set before accepting the nomination.

[Begin Feliu recording] Let me make it clear to everyone that I am accepting this nomination in order to win the elections. [applause] Just as gifts from heaven are not part of my experience, the word failure is not part of my vocabulary. [applause] [end recording]

The support that Feliu received from Jarpa and Pinera shows that his nomination has furthered the quest for unity. RN President Andres Allamand emphasized this aspect.

[Begin Allamand recording] I believe the nomination of an independent candidate furthers unity. As our candidate said, however, we aspire not only to unite the RN and the center-right, but also to create a new national majority. [end recording]

Today Manuel Feliu held an informal meeting with journalists.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Do you believe that you are the man who will cast oil on the troubled waters of the RN?

[Feliu] I clearly stated in my acceptance speech that I have not come to resolve party crises. Those were internal crises, and it was up to the parties involved to resolve them. These crises have been resolved. I will, therefore, work for the future.

[Reporter] You have said that you will win. Do you really believe you can defeat [Christian Democratic Party hopeful] Eduardo Frei, bearing in mind that surveys show that the right wing will not win the upcoming elections?

[Feliu] The important thing for the country is to elect the best candidate. If Freddy [Eduardo Frei's nickname] is thought to be the best he can count on my entire support, because if he is elected it will mean that the people want him. I like Eduardo Frei a great deal and hope he will be politically successful. [passage omitted] [end recording]

### Chile Assumes Rio Group Responsibility

*PY2301155993 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 15 Jan 93 p C5*

[Summary] During a ceremony in the Foreign Ministry's Red Hall, Chile officially assumed the responsibility of coordinating the Group of Rio's actions during 1993. This was stated by acting Foreign Minister Edmundo Vargas, who yesterday presided over the transfer ceremony for the Group of Rio's Pro Tempore Secretariat, which was attended by diplomatic representatives from Argentina, Chile, Brazil, and Colombia.

### Army Denies Pinochet Tried To Block Impeachment

*PY2301133193 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 22 Jan 93*

[Text] The Army has issued an official statement denying that General Augusto Pinochet personally called right-wing senators and government-appointed senators to ask them to turn down the impeachment request against the Supreme Court justices.

The statement says the institution respects current dispositions and that, consequently, neither the institution nor its members have interfered with the decisions made by congressmen.

The Army stated that relations between the Army commander in chief and the senators who voted against the request are strictly formal and respectful, adding that the alleged friendship between Gen. Pinochet and the senators is a groundless supposition.

### Naval Contingent To Join Cambodian UN Force

*PY2301133393 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0026 GMT 23 Jan 93*

[Excerpt] Santiago, 22 Jan (EFE)—The Chilean Navy commander in chief, Admiral Jorge Martinez Busch, bade farewell on 22 January to another Chilean naval contingent that will join the UN peacekeeping forces in Cambodia.

The 52-man group, headed by Frigate Captain Patricio Carrasco, will relieve the first contingent, which is still in Cambodian territory.

The new group of seamen, who will stay nine months in Cambodia, includes 11 naval observers, 14 naval commandos, and 27 marines.

The group will join the UN peacekeeping forces in Cambodia that are supervising a cease-fire signed in 1991 in order to allow free elections to be held in that country in May. [passage omitted]

## Colombia

### Gaviria: Government Not Frightened by Bombings

*PA2301044193 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 2300 GMT 22 Jan 93*

[Statement by President Cesar in Tumaco on 22 January—recorded]

[Text] I must say to the criminal, drug trafficking organizations that their pack of paid assasins will not frighten the government or Colombian society. The Public Force will continue searching for them to make them pay for their infamous crimes, and the people, who know the true value of peace, will continue rallying around their authorities. Colombia will not be stopped by bombs.

### Authorities Increase Security in Capital

*PA2401141993 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0030 GMT 24 Jan 93*

[Text] Attention, security in Santa Fe de Bogota has become an absolute priority for civilian and military authorities. The wave of terrorist actions on 21 January has been answered with militarization, check points, and large-scale operations by the police, the Army, the Administrative Department of Security, and other security organizations.

More than 500 members of counterguerrilla units have established checkpoints throughout the capital, while other forces have stepped up measures to protect more than 48 embassies and government facilities.

A tense calm prevails in the streets. The police and Army presence apparently discouraged terrorists from carrying out further activities on the evening of 21 January.

[Begin recording, Metropolitan Police Major Jorge Navarro] We saw many drunk people, but peace prevailed throughout the capital. [end recording]

The traditional weekend festivities were not halted. Thus, the evening of 22 Janurary was enjoyed throughout Santa Fe de Bogota's so-called Zona Rosa, while police patrolled and searched pedestrians. There were also some accidents with drunk drivers. Although the night was calm, the authorities will not lower their guard.

[Begin recording, Police Commander General Eduardo Pelaez] This is a joint action by police, specialists, and other personnel. They have been provided with the necessary technical means, and they are determined to serve Colombia. We will counter any attempt to disrupt peace. We have made arrangements to conduct air patrols over the city. [end recording]

The idea is to prevent violence and preclude terrorist plans to turn Santa Fe de Bogota into another of its targets.

The military police have started to implement a new system of quick checkpoints. This is being done at certain traffic lights to avoid causing delays. When the light turns red, military police units search up to 20 vehicles before it turns green again.

[Begin recording] [Army Lieutenant Gabriel Ruiz] We look for car bombs in Santa Fe de Bogota and weapons that may be seized.

[Unidentified taxi driver] Perhaps we will now be able to end the insecurity that prevails in the country. We are in sad shape.

[Unidentified Reporter] Does all this bother you much?

[Taxi driver] No, no, I do not think so. [end recording]

The most important thing is that the citizenry must cooperate with the authorities. Remember, big rewards are being offered to whomever provides information.

## More Security at Petroleum Facilities

*PA2401232993 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0030 GMT 24 Jan 93*

[Text] There will be more money available for protecting petroleum installations from terrorist attacks. A broad plan that will allow the authorities to stop the subversives and guarantee the normal development of the exploration and exploitation of hydrocarbons will be set into operation with 450 billion pesos from multinational companies.

The multinational companies operating in the country receive big profits from the hydrocarbon business, but the risks due to the lack of security are also very big. This is what representatives from the hydrocarbon industry told President Cesar Gaviria Trujillo and the military staff during the week of 17 January. After several meetings, it was agreed the government will receive a substantial amount of funds through the prepayment of taxes to allow them to develop a new and strict security program for the country's petroleum drilling infrastructure.

The "TV Today" newscast learned that the government and the multinational petroleum companies agreed to the prepayment of the war tax—originally 100 billion pesos but now 200 billion pesos—to the national treasury.

In addition, the state will receive 150 billion pesos instead of 100 billion pesos from the income tax and value added tax from the sale of petroleum derivatives. The government plans to receive another 100 billion pesos from the taxes on occasional earnings.

These funds will be used to finance the protection plan for the purchase of more helicopters and weapons and equip the police and Army, which will increase surveillance on pipelines and petroleum installations.

These measures are meant to guarantee that the multinational companies will not divert the large investments they have promised to make in Colombia to develop the petroleum industry.

The largest hydroelectric plant in the country will also have more security. The camps and a large part of the area bordering the El Guavio Dam will be turned into an Army training camp.

The idea is to maintain protection of the hydroelectric plant and allow the Army to exercise control in the Cundinamarca Department area, which borders the eastern plains where several rebel fronts are operating.

The security and protection of the El Guavio project has attained maximum priority for the electric company and for the Armed Forces. Therefore, the camps and land surrounding it, which were once occupied by the workers who built the hydroelectric plant, will be given to the Army and will become a military base.

[Begin General Ramon Gil recording] We will install a counterguerrilla unit here, and maybe we will also install a noncommissioned officers school. [end recording]

The Army will acquire the areas located in the Ubala and Mambita municipalities through a free loan [comodato]. This means the electric company will give the land and installations to the Army. The Army will use and maintain the land for a period to be established by the two parties in the future.

Electric company officials stated it is beneficial for these lands to be occupied by the Army and not other individuals because the hydroelectric plant has a high degree of vulnerability.

The "TV Today" newscast reported on the lack of security at the El Guavio hydroelectric plant.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] What is the situation right now?

[Gil] The point stressed by the newscast is correct. We considered it and reinforced security. [end recording]

For the military, El Guavio Province in Cundinamarca Department represents, not only protecting the hydroelectric plant, but also controlling access to the plains, where the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia Jaime Pardo Leal column operates.

### Minister Announces Security for Judges

*PA2501041993 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0030 GMT 25 Jan 93*

[Report by Jesus Garzon]

[Text] The government will protect Colombian judges with specialized police agents and expert detectives from the Administrative Department of Security. Justice Minister Andres Gonzalez Diaz made this announcement as a security fund was established for officials of the Judicial Branch and the prosecutor's office.

Also, with the help of foreign counterterrorist experts, judges will be trained on security matters. As if this were not enough, there is already a specialized police force in place to protect threatened judges exclusively.

[Begin Gonzalez recording] Thus, there will be professional agents and officers, who will specialize in judicial security. [end recording]

The state will invest 3 billion pesos, which will come mostly from money seized from drug traffickers and guerrillas, in this rigorous plan during the first half of 1993.

[Begin Gonzalez recording] Through the National Drug Council we decided that income yielded by a large portion of seized money will be used to protect Judicial Branch officials. [end recording]

The government assured that this plan will guarantee that judges will act freely in condemning violent people.

### Drug Trafficker Wanted by U.S. Surrenders

*PA2201211593 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1630 GMT 22 Jan 93*

[Text] Juan David Rossi Ramirez, the third man in the Tomatoes Clan [Clan de los Tomates], accompanied by his lawyer Gustavo Salazar Pineda, arrived at the Office of the Prosecutor General of the Republic on 22 January.

Rossi Ramirez is wanted in the United States on drug trafficking charges, and his extradition has been requested. There are, however, no charges against him in Colombia as of now.

The Tomatoes Clan is a Medellin organization that was formed more than eight years ago and is independent from Pablo Escobar's organization.

The clan's misfortunes started when Carlos Arcila Henao, the number one man in the Tomatoes Clan, was murdered in Santa Fe de Bogota in October 1992. A month later, his brother, Juan Diego, was arrested in Cartagena. Rossi Ramirez, who is the number three man in the clan, surrendered on 22 January.

[Begin recording] [Rossi Ramirez] I do not belong to any cartel.

[Correspondent] Who do you work for?

[Rossi Ramirez] I work with Carlos Alberto Arcila. I mean, I used to work with him.

[Correspondent] Is he from the Tomatoes Clan?

[Correspondent] Why are you surrendering to the Prosecutor General's Office?

[Rossi Ramirez] To be able to live peacefully and reenter society.

[Correspondent] Will others surrender?

[Rossi Ramirez] Perhaps others will surrender, but I know nothing about it.

[Correspondent] Were you in a U.S. prison before?

[Rossi Ramirez] Yes. [end recording]

Gustavo De Grieff, the prosecutor general of the Republic, said Juan David Rossi Ramirez' surrender is a recognition of the work done by Colombian justice. Once again, he called on Medellin Cartel members to surrender to justice. De Grieff said the existing conditions should prompt drug traffickers to continue surrendering:

[Begin De Grieff recording] People are becoming aware that it is better to live within the law. I believe it should be emphasized that our advances are the result of work done by the Prosecutor General's Office, as well as by lawyers. [end recording]

Juan David Rossi Ramirez has announced his willingness to cooperate with justice authorities to negotiate his case. At this time, the drug trafficker is being transferred to the La Picota Penitentiary in Santa Fe de Bogota.

## Paraguay

### PLRA Leader Requests Dialogue With Military

*PY2301133593 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 23 Jan 93 p 5*

[Text] Domingo Laino, Authentic Radical Liberal Party (PLRA) candidate for president of the Republic, presented a note yesterday in the Government Palace requesting an audience with President Andres Rodriguez. His note was accompanied by a document signed by other presidential candidates enumerating the main points of discussion for a dialogue between civilians and the military.

The signature of Guillermo Caballero Vargas, candidate for the independent National Encounter Movement, was the only one missing from the document. According to the PLRA, their messenger had been unable to find Caballero Vargas yesterday morning.

"This is not the appropriate moment to suspend a dialogue because we still have a pending mission before drawing our conclusions," Laino said in response to a statement made by President Rodriguez, who said this is not the appropriate time to resume the dialogue between civilians and the military.

Laino said the dialogue board of the presidential candidates had entrusted him with the mission of requesting an audience with the president of the Republic and commander of the national Armed Forces to establish an agenda of talks between the military and civilians.

He added that only after the presidential candidates talk with Rodriguez or with his representatives about this request will they adopt a position regarding the Armed Forces' possible refusal to establish a dialogue.

"For the time being, we learned through unofficial sources, that is, from the media, that there are other high-ranking officers who approve of this initiative and who agreed to this dialogue between soldiers and politicians as a way to prevent a possible institutional break," Laino said.

The PLRA president said this initiative to gather the eight presidential candidates who have practically the same view of the national situation is not just someone's idea, but the expression of the citizenry's real concern.

### National Alliance Nominates Zapag as Candidate

*PY2301155693 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 23 Jan 93 p 5*

[Excerpt] The political movement National Alliance [Alianza Nacional] last night officially nominated Dr. Abraham Zapag as a presidential candidate for the 9 May elections. The nomination took place at the Cerro Porteno Club, where Dr. Zapag outlined the main points of his platform. [passage omitted]

### New Presidential Secretary General Named

*PY2301160493 Asuncion NOTICIAS in Spanish 20 Jan 93 p 8*

[Summary] Dr. Miguel Angel Gonzalez Casabianca was appointed as new presidential secretary general yesterday, replacing Dr. Horacio Galeano Perrone, who will work solely as integration minister.

### Letter Reportedly Links U.S. to Repression

*PY2301142093 Asuncion NOTICIAS in Spanish 23 Jan 93 p 12*

[Text] The U.S. Embassy had established in Paraguay a real criminal cooperation that generated the worst waves of repression in the country's memory.

U.S. advisory organizations not only established a complicit policy of silence during the dictatorship, but they also sent their professional torturers to personally supervise the actions of Stroessner's political police.

One of the first U.S. "experts" sent to Paraguay at the beginning of the dictatorship was Robert K. Thierry, assigned to very special missions in the government's political police. This can be deduced from a letter [dated 20 March 1958] sent by Thierry to the then interior minister, Edgar L. Ynsfran, when he was ending his mission in Paraguay.

The letter begins by praising the "enjoyable" months spent in Paraguay as a "public administration adviser" and U.S. Government representative. The kind of advice provided by Thierry, nonetheless, was far from connected with public administration. He was adviser to and helped establish nothing other than the Interior Ministry's National Technical Affairs Directorate.

It is pointless to recall that this organization was in charge of repressing any anti-dictatorial movement, for which purpose the most savage methods and procedures were used. Detained politicians were the main dish of the then newly created organization, and many of them ended up joining the lists of missing people during the regime.

In the letter, Thierry praises the very efficient administration of police officer Antonio Campos Alum, one of the main torturers of that organization, and he forecasts a "horizon without bounds for the powerful organization."

Thierry also states in his letter that during his tour in Paraguay he cooperated and worked with several divisions of the Capital Police. This demonstrates that Thierry, the efficient U.S. "expert" of the Technical Affairs Directorate, was a real jewel.

## Peru

### Communique Issued on American Airlines Incident

*PA2201183793 Lima Radio Programas del Peru Network in Spanish 1715 GMT 22 Jan 93*

[Report by Walter Samuel Neira from the Jorge Chavez International Airport in Lima—live]

[Text] A strictly private meeting took place on the morning of 22 January between high-ranking officials of the Corporation for Airports and Commercial Aviation [Corpac] and (?Juan Ben), the services manager for

American Airlines, after an incident involving an American Airlines A300 Airbus during the predawn hours of 22 January. After the closed door meeting, the parties issued a communique that reported:

At approximately 0100 on 22 January, an American Airlines A300 Airbus arriving from Miami was hit in its fuselage by gunfire as it taxied after landing at Jorge Chavez Airport.

The communique adds that the shots apparently were fired accidentally by a member of one of the security units that patrol the airport. The communique also reports there were no personal injuries and that the airplane was only slightly damaged. Officials immediately conducted an investigation, and the damage was repaired. Operations will continue normally.

The communique bears the signature of the Corpac Public Relations Office. At this time the airplane, which was parked here on the tarmac of the international flight section just meters from where I am broadcasting, has been moved. Officials continue to examine the plane which was hit as it moved in the black section of Jorge Chavez Airport.

## Interior Minister Claims Total Freedom of Press

*PA2301043193 Lima Global de Television Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Jan 93*

[Text] Interior Minister Juan Briones Davila has said there is total freedom of the press throughout the nation. Briones explained that he had been misinterpreted by the media when it was reported that he had accused certain reporters of being information terrorists. Here is what Minister Briones said:

[Being recording] [Briones] There is total freedom of expression and freedom of the press in our nation. Not only because this is a fundamental pillar of democracy, as we all know, but because it is set out in our Constitution and our laws. It is the policy of the president of the Republic and of our current government that this total freedom of the press be guarded and maintained. Therefore, we must take into account a very important fact. There is total freedom of the press in our nation.

If you analyze carefully my statements, which have been recorded on various videos by television stations and on the radio, you will clearly note that at no time did I mention or tell the reporters that they or the media use information to engage in terrorism. I did say that there are ill-willed persons who provide false information, like the story about the police rebellion at [word indistinct]. It was said that this rebellion was part of a conspiracy, a coup, to destabilize our government or our democracy. Even worse, this information was reported abroad by these individuals, who seek to tarnish the international image not only of our institutions but also of our nation.

[Unidentified reporter] Do the statements by Council of Ministers President Oscar de la Puente Raygada bother you? Are you going to discuss this with him....

[Briones, interrupting] No, no. What I did observe.... [pauses] Watch the video closely. I see his concern. He also realized that my statements had been wrongly interpreted, and he was concerned. We talked this over and I considered it wise to clear up this matter. [end recording]

## Fujimori Comments on Financial Negotiations

*PA2201220193 Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Jan 93*

[Text] President Alberto Fujimori has reiterated that efforts to establish the Second Support Group for Peru will resume on 2 February. Fujimori said $400 million must be collected and announced a World Bank mission will arrive in Peru to analyze bank interest rates. Fujimori made these statements after he inaugurated a branch of Nuevo Mundo Bank in San Isidro.

Chief of State Alberto Fujimori inaugurated the Nuevo Mundo Bank installations which will be open to the public on 22 January. Economy Minister Jorge Camet, Democratic Constituent Congress President Jaime Yoshiyama, and other prominent officials attended the ceremony. During his speech, Fujimori said a group of World Bank experts will be arriving in Peru shortly to analyze the causes of continuous changes in the interest rate. He agreed to issue corrective measures.

[Begin Fujimori recording] The inauguration of this new bank, Nuevo Mundo Bank, is a vote of confidence. I would also say it is a sign of optimism that will help create more trust. This inauguration is a very important event for the country's economy, which should receive all the attention it deserves and not be buried under an avalanche of political news. The country also needs to know foreign capital is being invested, as we mentioned before, and local capital is remaining in Peru because Peru has a future. I want to let you know that as of 2 February, Economy Minister Camet will resume pending negotiations to establish the Second Support Group for Peru. The United States and Japan will lead this group. Thus we will culminate Peru's financial reinstatement and become creditworthy with all due rights. This bank opens its doors within a promising context. I, therefore, want to offer my warmest congratulations to its president and board members and assure them they have made a sound investment because this is a very promising country. Peru, a very rich country, full of possibilities, will achieve the peace and stability necessary for progress in the near future. We all, the government, democratic politicians, ordinary people, and businessmen, have to struggle to achieve this peace and stability. [end recording]

## Interview With Fujimori on Human Rights

*PA2401041393 Lima Radio Programas del Peru Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 23 Jan 93*

[Interview with President Alberto Fujimori by moderator Dennis Vargas and guest reporters Jaime de Althaus and Arturo Salazar in the Grau Room of the Presidential Palace in Lima on the "Saturday Topics" program; date not given—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Salazar] Mr. President, I would like to change our topic of conversation and talk about something which you directly referred to in Bolivia. Some people are calling for a pardon for those involved in the 13 November events, for those who deserve it, of course. Have you seriously thought about this possibility to attain peace, understanding, and reconciliation? Could this possibility become a reality?

[Fujimori] As for my statements in Bolivia, many newspapers published headlines that I believe are not exactly right. I believe studies and investigations should be conducted. It is like an investment plan. An analysis must first be conducted. We must discuss the effects and the best options. In a case in which there was an attempt to destabilize the country when alternatives for a new institutionality existed, we first have to determine the degrees of responsibility and guilt using the judicial process. We cannot prejudge. I believe that any decision on pardons or amnesty should be made after the sentences are announced. If in fact it is proven that murder attempts were made, if attempts were made to return to the situation prior to 5 April 1992 to impose certain conditions or to create a climate of instability, then we would have to establish responsibility. A pardon is granted by the president based on certain considerations or extenuating circumstances.

[Salazar] You would first support a trial and sentence process for those who are involved in this case, however, the Democratic Constituent Congress can grant amnesties. Which of the two would you call for?

[Fujimori] It is up to me to grant pardons, but in my personal opinion, we must first clearly establish the responsibility of those involved in the 13 November coup attempt before making a decision. We cannot prejudge, especially when there are so many options. We have to identify the elements that have intervened in this coup attempt. We have to identify what objectives were sought.

[Salazar] You would, therefore, oppose the possibility of Congress discussing an amnesty?

[Fujimori] That is for Congress to decide.

[Salazar] Very well. There is another topic we want to talk about. It has to do with human rights. Various cases of tortures have been reported in prisons, jails, and penitentiaries. How will you handle the human rights issue now that the eyes of the world are on Peru, especially in the United States with the new Clinton administration, which has shown a special interest in the subject in Peru? The recent statements by Mr. Bernard Aronson should lead Peru to take a concrete position in this regard. Are his statements true? Are there human rights violations in Peru? Do you know anything about this? What about the arbitrary arrests, the cases of missing people? How are we going to respond to those who are watching us from abroad?

[Fujimori] We have to answer those who are watching us from abroad with concrete actions here in Peru. As I said in a meeting with the commando units, as well as with Army and police officers, we have to reduce human rights violations, if there are any, to zero. That should be our objective. Zero human rights violations in each unit. As for the cases of torture, I believe we have to make some clarifications. New headlines on this issue are being published, but they forget there is a convincing report by the Attorney General's Office indicating there are no tortures. One of the local magazines published a photo showing an officer, who participated in the 13 November coup attempt, being tortured. It would be interesting to conduct a more in-depth investigation on how this photo was obtained, where it was obtained, and if it is in fact an authentic picture. I have asked the intelligence services to analyze these pictures. I believe such tortures have not taken place and that these are just fabricated photos, as many other photos that have been published in the not-so-serious media. As for human rights, I believe we have to be more precise. If the objective is human rights, we have to report human rights violations by the state or by terrorist groups. These cases should be denounced, and culprits should be punished. I fully support this, but I also want to mention those so-called human rights organizations that fail to mention the violations committed by Shining Path. I ask myself if there is any human rights organization concerned about homeless children. Do they know if some of these children have been adopted by these organizations to defend their rights? Have they visited these children in Huallao or (Rumi Rumi)? We have to conduct a campaign for the authentic defense of human rights and not just a biased defense. In this regard it is necessary to send this message abroad. The main human rights violator here is the Shining Path followed by the MRTA [Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement], and probably followed by certain Army units. Mr. Aronson did not only speak about these violations. We have to emphasize the fact that Mr. Aronson, speaking at the U.S. Congress, also spoke about the third largest genocidal group in the world. Therefore, the real objective is to defend human rights, but let us defend the 22 million Peruvians and not only the 3,000 Shining Path members.

[Salazar] What happens to the detainees, Mr. President? Many reporters are among the detainees. We do not know what has become of Magno Sosa or Quijano from the newspaper LA REPUBLICA. They have been arrested. How does the government view this situation?

[Fujimori] By the way, there are not many. There are but a few exceptional, regrettable cases.

[Salazar] That is why I said a few reporters.

[Fujimori] I have been making silent efforts to gain the release of reporters and to provide fair and equitable treatment for them. For example, we are trying to secure the release of reporter Quijano of LA REPUBLICA. He is a professional who has absolutely no ties to the MRTA, as has been alleged. He has even conducted studies on individuals who are involved with the guerrillas and has given names, thereby risking his life.

[Salazar] Then you are announcing his release?

[Fujimori] That falls within the realm of the Judicial Branch, where we are making diligent efforts to gain his release.

[Vargas] Question by Jaime de Althaus.

[De Althaus] Mr. President, regarding the human rights issue and pacification, the government has made a very worrisome decision. I am referring to the withdrawal of General Ketin Vidal from Dincote [Counterterrorism National Directorate]. Gen. Antonio Ketin Vidal was not only capable of enforcing the law in a way that was strictly selective and in accordance with human rights, but he captured Abimael Guzman and the Shining Path hierarchy. He was training more divisions within the Dincote. He had a plan to spread this new way of doing intelligence to all Dincote regional directorates. He even had a plan to deal with drug trafficking and a number of other problems. He was our guarantee that in 1993 we would consolidate the offensive and defeat Shining Path.

How can it be possible that to date the government has not offered any explanation regarding why Gen. Vidal was transferred from this very strategic and important position to the totally useless position of the National Police inspectorship, with the pretext that it represents a promotion? If the government is capable of keeping individuals in their posts who at best are controversial, such as Gen. Hermoza Rios and Admiral Arnaiz of the Navy, how can it withdraw an individual like Gen. Vidal from a post he should never have left because he offered the country the assurance that the struggle against subversion would continue in an even more forceful manner?

One explanation has been given to the effect that Gen. Vidal acted autonomously in the sense that he did not necessarily respond to instructions from, for example, the intelligence service or Mr. Vladimiro Montesinos. Thus, in view of his refusal to participate in Montesinos' power game or that of the intelligence service in general, he was removed and replaced by a man fully trusted by Mr. Montesinos: Gen. Dominguez. This is one explanation. It is the explanation heard in media circles, because to date the government has not provided an explanation for this truly worrisome situation. What is the real explanation, Mr. President?

[Fujimori] This is a lengthy question that includes comments and preambles, and it allows me to explain a few things I believe are of interest. Regarding the military and police issue, I do not believe I owe you an explanation because decisions have to be made within the military system. There is a hierarchical straightforwardness and obedience within the military that is respected worldwide. I thank you for the question because I believe it is necessary to explain a few things given the campaign that has been conducted on this issue. I will also provide information that has been discussed behind the scenes. Real information.

First of all I must say that in fact—I say this just like that, without any false modesty—I direct antisubversive strategy. It is my duty as president of the Republic, and I perform this duty in practice. This is why we have made these reforms, and it is why we began reforming the police on my first day in office.

You may recall that of 12 lieutenant generals 11 were separated, and of 54 police generals 36 were separated. Some were separated for justified reasons, such as their involvement with that third terrorist group, suspected involvement in drug trafficking, inefficiency, and others because we had to make room for other officers who could produce.

I have done this job personally in order to achieve results. In my opinion, what counts in any strategy are the results.

Many officers were separated by the previous government, some of them for a number of years. I am going to mention names since the media is talking so much about this. I met Gen. Ketin Vidal—of whom I quickly formed a good opinion—when Mr. Vladimiro Montesinos was advising me on the famous frauds [words indistinct] and so forth. I was a good friend of Montesinos' and still am. It is not true Dr. Montesinos influences promotions or my decisions or that he advises me. It is not true. However—this responds to the comment on Gen. Vidal not responding to Vladimir Montesinos—if Dr. Montesinos has supported any promotions, they have been Gen. Ketin Vidal's, because Vidal was a colonel a separated colonel. He was unfairly separated for three years by the previous government. I do not believe this is widely known. Dr. Montesinos insisted so much that I almost threw him out of the house. He told me look, Mr. President, I know him because over these past three years he has worked with me. I guarantee his suitability. It is necessary to promote him and have him at Dincote.

[De Althaus] However, it seems as if he acquired independence, Mr. President.

[Fujimori] Pardon me?

[De Althaus] It seems as if Vidal acquired independence, Mr. President.

[Fujimori] He has independence.

[De Althaus] He became independent and was no longer [words indistinct]

[Fujimori] However, if in this case Dr. Montesinos had not insisted as he did with then Colonel Ketin Vidal, Vidal would probably have gone unnoticed because (?he had been separated for three years.) Another thing, those were three years of inactivity, but Montesinos also insisted that they be considered when he was being evaluated.

[Vargas] Is everything Mr. Montesinos says always done, Mr. President?

[Fujimori] No.

[Vargas] Aha.

[Fujimori] In this case, he insisted on two or three cases because it involved the legal advisory office. He was right. Because he knows that man very well the change was made, just like any other changes are made. It included Gen. John Caro, a general who had done a good job, but more dynamism was necessary so I appointed Gen. Ketin Vidal. I am the one who makes these important decisions.

[De Althaus] Why was he retired?

[Fujimori] A team was formed later. A whole team, rather than a single person, is in charge of matters dealing with terrorism. The struggle against terrorism cannot be waged by one person only. It must be waged by an organized team. We have to be careful when discussing this issue, but I can tell you it does not only involve Dincote Chief Gen. Carlos Dominguez or this or that other general. A whole team is in charge of intelligence issues.

There is another important issue. Corruption and inefficiency will prevail within the National Police. We must improve efficiency and effectiveness. An example must be set by a leader who has proven his worth. The role of inspector general is no run-of-the- mill job. If you take it from the traditional administrative viewpoint you assume you do not do a job because you sit behind a desk. If you truly assume the role of inspector general, however, and establish the adequate framework for each police agency then you are doing an excellent job. I can guarantee the strategy against subversive groups will continue in the same terms, and it will continue to achieve the same results.

[De Althaus] In any case, Mr. President, it seems difficult to believe the role of inspector general will be even more important than the role of Dincote chief. The goal of the country is to end terrorism.

[Fujimori] We are doing it. We continue to work and, I repeat, it involves team work. I think I have clearly answered that this is simply not the work of this or that person. The president of the Republic is in charge, not Dr. Montesinos. Referring to that particular case, we had special considerations because it involved a colonel who was unfairly retired three years ago and we could not fail to consider him for a promotion.

[De Althaus] But....

[Fujimori, interrupting] Everything else is not true. As soon as we achieved success, I decided to promote him immediately, without going through the usual channels to the rank of lieutenant general.

[Salazar] The fact is terrorist actions have again increased. Candidates are being assassinated, car bombs have exploded, etc. I do not think this is the right time to remove Gen. Vidal.

[Fujimori] Please allow me to interrupt at this point. Car bombs also exploded while Gen. Ketin Vidal and Gen. John Caro were in charge—or have we forgotten about August and September?

[Salazar] Until Abimael Guzman was arrested.

[Fujimori] Exactly. All that has happened. I also said the struggle against terrorism will end in 1995. We can expect these kind of actions in the meantime. We have achieved the first results because we persisted until we arrested all Shining Path leaders, at least 95 percent of them anyway. Do you remember when we showed a video of Abimael Guzman's arrest, which was conducted by the previous Dincote chief's administration? We said we would continue until we arrested the whole Shining Path leadership. The goal was achieved. We are now trying to arrest the remaining 5 percent, meaning three or four leaders. We are concentrating on their annihilation groups.

[Vargas] Mr. President, we have a few minutes left. We will start the final round of questions with Jaime de Althaus.

[De Althaus] Mr. President, I would like to continue with these somewhat incredible changes. Referring to the Navy and the embezzlement of Navy funds, we once said the government made the incredible decision of retiring all the members of a team that was investigating this case. In addition, the government decided to request the extradition of Mr. Villagarcia [not further identified]. This is incredible because this person was being tried by a jury in another country and he had been offered a pardon in exchange for information on all his accomplices. The possibility was voided when his extradition was requested from here. Apparently the goal was to use his extradition as a bargaining chip—in other words, to tell him: Villagarcia, we will not extradite you if you do not implicate the most recent culprits. The idea is for him to implicate his accomplices in the past, but not his most recent accomplices. That is the prevailing version. The question is: Will the names of these infamous traitors be known? Would it not be advisable to remove this extradition threat against Mr. Villagarcia so he is free to give all the information he has? If he were not threatened with extradition, he would be free to reveal everything he knows. Would it not be better to remove this threat?

[Fujimori] I had forgotten to answer part of your previous question. You wanted to know why the government was capable of keeping a controversial general like Gen. Nicolas Hermoza Rios. I want to know why you used the word controversial. He may be considered controversial by former commander generals because the results he has attained obviously contrast with the actions carried out by some of those former commander generals. Gen. Hermoza will remain in his post, and he has the president's full support for his role as chairman of the Joint Command because his evaluation, like that of Gen. Ketin Vidal, is done based on results. The results are there—in Vizcatan, Pampa Hermosa, Aguaitia, and many other places. I think any effort to undermine Gen. Hermoza's authority is unfair and incorrect. Quite the contrary, I think he is doing an extraordinary job, the likes of which we have seldom seen before, with the support of all the officers in the military corps.

Regarding the Navy issue, and any other issue dealing with the struggle against corruption, the situation is difficult. You, my fellow citizens, know the situation is quite difficult. When one struggles against corruption one finds a lot of opposition because corrupt people are precisely the most powerful of all. Since they are powerful they use everything within their means to misinform and distort the truth. You know we want the truth to prevail, and we will wage an all-out struggle against corruption. We will confront whoever is necessary. For example, I have confronted some former commander generals. Tell me, when had anyone dared touch them? Has any media criticized their actions? No one, absolutely no one dared do this. Why didn't the Comptroller General's Office have access....[pauses] excuse me for digressing a few minutes but I think this issue is important.

[De Althaus] Yes.

[Fujimori] Why did not the Comptroller General's Office have access to the military forces accounts to verify if the Army, Navy, and Air Force resources were being appropriately handled?

[De Althaus] Does it have access now?

[Fujimori] It has access now, and the accounts are being controlled and supervised. In any case, the accounts are now available, even if they were not in the past. No media dared touch that topic in the past, much less to report anything. I do not know why, as there was freedom of expression and freedom of the press. I believe....[pauses] the country must change and the media must also adopt a different attitude. Perhaps it should be a much more frank attitude and, in some cases, it should be quote less fearful unquote. We cannot stop the struggle against corruption. I know time is running out, Mr. Vargas, but I had to explain that. [passage omitted]

[Vargas] There are two other topics [words indistinct]

[Fujimori] I believe that when it comes to corruption we should not consider the time of a television program.

Regarding the media issue, there are a few contradictions. I can honestly tell you and Mr. De Althaus here, whom I consider a respectable friend and a distinguished journalist, that EXPRESO, for example, defends Gen. Cisneros who is also a very honorable person, but I see a contradiction there. You, the media, forget that in 1976 there were problems. I ask you, who at that time appointed the directors of the leading newspapers? Have you forgotten that? In this government there will be respect for freedom of the press. Total freedom as I have shown you so far. There will be absolutely no divisions on this issue. News reports are evaluated.

Let me give you an example so you will understand me well. If a news media source informs me there are, for example, troop movements somewhere on the border, I must immediately evaluate that report. I am obliged to do so. Based on that evaluation, I would reach a conclusion. Absolutely no measure would be adopted against the news media that issued the report. Furthermore, the public and (?this defender of the market economy), punish those who sell bad products. If a chocolate factory sells chocolates with worms, [laughter], no one would purchase those chocolates. The same happens to the news media. Pardon the criticism, but I think it is necessary.

[Vargas] Careful with the low blows. [laughter]

[Fujimori] If a news source consistently publishes inaccurate reports and yet it survives, it means it is backed by a few million dollars. The public evaluates the information. If a news source publishes inaccurate and false reports constantly, and this news source continues operating despite a lack of sales, it means something strange is going on. [passage omitted]

### Interview With Garcia on Extradition Request

*PA2501021893 Santa Fe de Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 Jan 93*

[Telephone interview with former Peruvian President Alan Garcia by an unidentified station reporter in Santa Fe de Bogota—live]

[Excerpts] [Reporter] A commission of Peruvian congressmen arrived in Colombia a few hours ago to request the extradition of former Peruvian President Alan Garcia from President Cesar Gaviria and Colombian authorities. Although, as I have said before, this is a [word indistinct] case, these congressmen insist on demanding his extradition from Colombia. We have contacted former President Alan Garcia by phone and have asked him to give us his views regarding this situation and how he views the fact that Peruvian congressmen have traveled to Colombia to request his extradition. Good morning Dr. Garcia.

[Garcia] Good morning RCN friends. I deeply deplore the fact that hatred, rivalries in Peru, and resentments that sometimes seem cannibalistic are being exported. I believe, however, that the presence of this group of

ultrarightist politicians from Peru confirms the political and ulterior—not legal—motives of this request. In reality this is a request from the Peruvian dictatorship, which continues to be a dictatorship despite the farce mounted by a pseudo Congress in which none of the organized and serious Peruvian parties participated. I do not believe this country, Colombia, will listen to bossy persons or dictators. Colombia is a country with a long and strong judicial tradition, and is known as the homeland of laws. Therefore, I am sure those insolent requests from a dictatorship will not prosper.

[Reporter] We understand you sent a letter to President Gaviria in the past few hours.

[Garcia] Yes. I stated my position regarding everything that has been said during the past few days. Evidently, the presence of those violent ultrarightist Peruvian politicians is being covered in the newspapers, and some of their statements are cited. Since I received asylum from the Colombian Government and people through the president, I felt it was my obligation to express my thoughts, as a matter of information, regarding what has been said.

[Reporter] Have you received a reply from the president?

[Garcia] No, I do not expect a reply. It was simply a note to him. I do not prefer to speak publicly. I do not think I should discuss this matter publicly, because I would be playing along with those representatives of the Peruvian dictatorship, who would like us to return to 1990. I recall, my dear friend, that in 1990, after my presidential term ended, I remained in Peru until 1992 to face any accusations, demands, suspicions, or questions. I appeared before several parliamentarian investigating commissions, but none of the charges could be supported or confirmed. Nothing of what was widely discussed—everybody had a right to talk, and those who talked were increasingly scandalous—had any seriousness. There was no evidence, therefore, that anything that was said was true. I remained there because it was my obligation as a democratic president. In a democracy, if my income and expenses were being investigated, it was my duty to be there. Naturally, after the coup d'etat and the dissolution of the Supreme Court that had acquitted me and declared me innocent, after the magistrates were expelled and 24 new magistrates belonging to the ruling party were appointed, I had to seek some kind of legal protection, which I found thanks to the Colombian Government.

[Reporter] Then why does President Alberto Fujimori insist on asking the Colombian Government for your extradition? Is this not like trying to intervene in Colombian laws and the asylum you were granted?

[Garcia] What you just said is very true. Dictatorships have no frontiers. It is more important, however, to say this: The situation in Peru is dramatic almost three years after Fujimori assumed power. I will give you two or three examples, with figures. At present, Peru is producing 30 percent less than during my government in 1988. Do you know what that means? The real value of salaries has dropped almost 50 percent. A police officer and a teacher earn salaries that represent one-third of the purchasing power they had under my government. There are 700,000 more unemployed persons. Out of 22 million Peruvians, 14 million are currently in a state of critical poverty, a poverty Colombia has never experienced.

Therefore, the illusion created by the 5 April authoritarian coup—the rupture of democracy, the closure of the parliament—now have vanished. You can close the parliament, but people have less to eat. You can eliminate the Judicial Branch, but unemployment remains the same. Ten months later, Peruvians have begun to realize that the illusions of dictatorships, providential men, forceful actions, and bullying, will lead nowhere.

Consequently, in the elections for this pseudo Congress—which the group that arrived here belong to—the government scarcely obtained 19 percent of the votes of citizens able to vote, or 38 percent of those who voted. In the municipal elections scheduled for 29 January the government will only obtain 10 percent of the votes, according to surveys. Therefore, Fujimori should have withdrawn all his candidates. Two days ago, as you probably read in international dispatches, he withdrew his candidate for the mayor of Lima. Although he had publicly supported him in television campaign advertisements, he had to withdraw his candidate after it was obvious he would only get less than 10 percent of the votes.

In view of this situation, because the truth cannot be hidden and the lack of money and food Peruvians are experiencing reflects the reality, he must do what he is good at: mount a circus. In this circus, Alan Garcia can be a pawn, an instrument that will enable him to light some fireworks in the midst of elections in which he will suffer the worse defeat of any government.

[Reporter] Are you calling him a clown?

[Garcia] No, I say circus because people are entertained by a circus, but I would not even call my opponents clowns. I prefer to use legal terms to describe them. I believe he is simply a dictator, one of the many banana dictators we have had in the history of Latin America.

[Reporter] Dr. Garcia, have you held any talks with the Peruvian congressmen?

[Garcia] No sir. God forbid. One of the good things about my stay in Colombia is that I have stopped listening to those voices.

[Reporter] Are you afraid of any threats to your life?

[Garcia] I know that after this maneuver, which will fail because I trust the law and politicians and authorities here are not guided by what a group of people demand, they are going to start carrying out acts of physical violence. You can be sure of that because I know Adviser Montesinos, who defends drug traffickers and who is well-known in Peru. He is the man who actually rules Peru. He is the man who has control over the Armed

Forces and the military officers. They are capable of doing anything. They are capable of murdering labor union leaders like Pedro (Wilca), the only one who was leading an unyielding opposition in favor of salaries and jobs. I believe it is possible they are going to start moving on to acts of physical violence. I trust the Colombian Government and society, however.

[Reporter] Colombia has opened its arms to you, and you can be somewhat safe here. International terrorism, however, goes to any lengths and spares no effort to achieve its objective. That is why I asked you if you were afraid of any attacks.

[Garcia] There is something I can tell you with sincerity, without being arrogant. Former President Alan Garcia's political opponents are afraid of him because he has had the good fortune of being able to talk to the people. Even under the most dramatic situations, I have been able to explain the difficult situations to the people, and I have been able to take advantage of good circumstances. Since 1982 my party has won all the elections in which it has participated. For the first time in 60 years—you remember that Apra [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance] was established in 1930 and was prevented from reaching power until 1985, when I won the presidential elections—we were able to break the historic and military trend against Apra. We won the elections, and from then on we won all the elections in which we participated. People in Peru think former President Alan Garcia, who completed his term in office at 40 years, could become president once again and once again dominate his adversaries. Therefore, they believe it is time to finish him off, to kill this monster. That is why they have this obsession and have sent these people here who want to lynch me. They have sent these people, who are willing to use slander. They did not send an informative commission, but a slanderous commission. Actually they are afraid. I confess that the best thing that could happen to you is to have frightened opponents because they make mistakes and say grotesque, absurd things like accusing me of killing the Pope and saying I sold the Vatican and stole the treasures of the conquest. They can say anything they want without proving anything. Actually they are afraid. The worst thing that can happen to you in politics is to be afraid because you always end up the loser. I can guarantee Apra will win the next presidential elections. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Former President Alan Garcia, four months ago you talked about U.S. policy and practically predicted Bill Clinton's victory. After listening to Clinton's inaugural speech, what do you expect for Latin America?

[Garcia] I should not be the one to say it, but I am a man of feelings. I do not believe in politics without guts. I do not believe in politics without passion. I passionately believe Mr. Clinton will fundamentally bring a new approach, a new dream, and a greater human spirit, which is the important thing. We have become accustomed to seeing politics being the art of dehumanization, the art of observing the laws of the market, and technical efficiency. We no longer see solidarity, justice, or love among people. I believe this man, an enthusiastic young man who plays his saxophone, who dances and shows he is human, does not have a cold heart. I truly believe this will mean, not only for the United States, but for the world, that we will once again take a look at the large majority of people who do not have a dream, who do not have food, and who are facing difficult economic situations. This is the fundamental thing about Clinton. Secondly, this should lead to a different economic policy. I am sure that when the U.S. economy is reactivated, our economies will improve. Whether you like it or not, the United States is a powerful locomotive and reactivation of its market will reactivate our economies. I believe President Clinton is ending a period characterized by a harshness of spirit and a period of dogmatism, in which market laws had to be strictly observed and human beings were not considered. I believe this is very important for the future. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Former President Garcia, I thank you very much for talking with us.

[Garcia] Thank you and I thank you for this conversation, which allows me to reach the Colombian people. Look, not only the legal guarantees given to me by President Gaviria or the Colombian Government are important to me. The affection given to me by the Colombian people is even more important. What concerns me the most is that envious people from Peru, who are full of hatred, are coming here to hurt that warm relation, which we have had with the Colombian people. The worst thing that could happen to me is that, where I have always found affection and smiles, someone will believe this commission of envious people and begin saying this man is not as good as we thought. That is the only thing that would hurt me. Other than that things are going fine.

## Uruguay

### Interior Minister Says Police Situation 'Normal'

*PY2301015293 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 22 Jan 93*

[Text] Interior Minister Juan Andres Ramirez tonight noted that after the incidents reported yesterday, when several policemen and civilians were detained, the situation has become absolutely normal.

As is known, 14 policemen and two civilians, who were released a few hours ago, had been detained. Thus far it is not officially known whether any sanctions will be applied, as is established by current law.

Juan Andres Ramirez is now meeting with the Congressional Security Committee. Before this meeting he pointed out the following:

[Begin recording, in progress] [Ramirez] ...so to say, gradually. First, the initial instructions simply involved identifying the policemen who participated in the march and who were ordered to leave immediately and report

to their bases, to their units. They failed to comply with this order. Some of them identified themselves, others did not.

In addition, an important group refused to return to their units. Quite the contrary. They changed the course of the march and right there decided to go to the Cuirassiers Guard [Guardia de Coraceros].

Therefore, as they failed to comply with the orders issued by the officers we ordered the detention of the policemen involved, without taking into account whether or not they were on duty, in order to interrogate them. Everything was reported to the judge hearing this case. The proper administrative steps are thus under way now in order to determine their responsibility.

[Unidentified reporter] Is the current situation absolutely normal?

[Ramirez] The situation is absolutely normal throughout the country. [end recording]

## Venezuela

### Spokesman Denies Theft of Weapons at Presidency

*PA2501001993 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2332 GMT 24 Jan 93*

[Text] Caracas, 25 Jan [date as received] (EFE)—On 24 January the Venezuelan Government denied weapons were stolen from the Honor Guard at Miraflores Palace, where the president's office is located.

Angel Zambrano, chief of the Central Information Office (OCI), said those reports are part of new attempts by people who want to destabilize the country. A local daily reported that a shipment consisting of seven machine guns and a high-caliber pistol were stolen from the presidential military regiment. Zambrano said those reports confirm what the government has been reporting about some media publishing reports that have no basis and cannot be justified.

"I can assure you no weapons have been stolen from the Honor Guard. The inventory of weapons kept by the National Armed Forces are absolutely protected, and there are full guarantees they will not be used for any purpose other than preserving democratic institutionality," Zambrano added.

He also denied frequent statements by an Air Force colonel, currently under arrest for his participation in the 27 November coup attempt, that Venezuelan planes have been operated by foreign pilots since the rebellion. Zambrano said those remarks are aimed at harming the image of the Venezuelan Armed Forces.

### Armed Forces on Alert After Elections Clash

*PA2401174493 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1614 GMT 24 Jan 93*

[Text] Caracas, 24 Jan (DPA)—The Venezuelan Armed Forces were put on a state of alert on 24 January after street confrontations in Barinas and Sucre States and amid increasing fears of a new coup attempt against President Carlos Andres Perez.

Interior Minister Jesus Carmona said the government will not let the situation "get out of hand." The National Guard was deployed at key points in Cumana, Sucre Department, and Barinas, capital city of Barinas State, at the foot of the Venezuelan Andes. "It is the government's duty to make sure the situation does not get out of control. This is why the proper security measures have been taken," Carmona told the press.

In Cumana, followers of the Movement for Socialism, which claims it won the governorship in the 6 December regional elections, clashed for the sixth consecutive day with followers of the Democratic Action [AD] party, which has ruled so far. AD followers refuse to admit their party was defeated in the elections, and the AD governor was expelled from the party for admitting that the opposition candidate had won.

In Barinas, Gerard Cartay of the Christian Democratic Party was sworn in as governor on 23 January while his followers clashed with AD members who refused to admit they had been beaten.

In the regional elections the government party had been defeated spectacularly by losing important bastions, such as the Caracas mayoralty, which was won by the small leftist party Radical Cause.

Isidro Morales Paul, president of the Supreme Electoral Council (CSE), spoke out in light of the strong criticism of the organization, rejecting the pressure exerted by the political parties, which he accused of acting "irrationally."

The CSE became the main target of criticism because of the social unrest after the elections and the delay in announcing the results. The official results of the elections in Barinas and Sucre States are still unknown.

In light of the wave of political violence, the local press has started to echo the fears of a new coup d'etat against President Carlos Andres Perez.

According to the 24 January edition of the influential DIARIO DE CARACAS, important government party leaders fear a "cold" coup d'etat, led by top Armed Forces officers, after the two failed coup attempts of February and November, which were headed by midranking officers.

According to the morning newspaper, government sources stated that generals believe Venezuela is sitting "on a powder keg," which makes Perez's removal from office unavoidable.

The president has been criticized for the effects of the macroeconomic adjustment plan, which is aimed at freeing Venezuela of its dependency on petroleum exports, until now its main source of income.

According to the unidentified sources, the tense situation in Barinas and Sucre States has prompted a negative reaction from high-ranking Venezuelan officers. However, the newspaper adds, the Armed Forces are not very articulate because each corps has its own political objectives.

### Defense Minister on 'Destabilization Campaign'

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[Text] At Miraflores Palace a few minutes ago Defense Minister General Ivan Dario Jimenez Sanchez denied that General Oswaldo Suju Raffo, former inspector general of the Armed Forces, had been asked to resign, as several national newspapers had reported. Commenting on the report, Gen. Jimenez Sanchez said the destabilization campaign continues, with the misguided intention of destroying the country.

[Begin recording] [Jimenez] In addition to the report on Gen. Raffo, another newspaper stated Venezuelan pilots did not fly the F-16's on 10 December. Just as you are now seeing Gen. Raffo, I am inviting all the media to go to Libertador Base. I am even lending you vehicles so you can go and talk to the F-16 pilots. I invite you to have a talk with these pilots and to draw your own conclusions.

Another newspaper said the Armed Forces are immersed in a debate about loyalty, nonconformity, and who knows what else. Gentlemen, you are playing with the destruction of the country. You are betting on the destruction of the country. I think the time has come to realize what is happening. I think the time has come to realize what is happening in Venezuela. I do not think any of us wants Venezuela to be destroyed.

[Raffo] Our country has great potential to excel in the world. True, we are experiencing economic, social, moral, and political problems, but we have great human resources. All Venezuelans must undertake the major task of overcoming this hurdle. We see that other countries have experienced situations similar to ours but overcome them because of the great cohesion that existed among all of the citizens. Why can't Venezuela do the same? I think the time has come to set aside private and group interests so the interest of the nation can prevail in our beloved Venezuela. I deplore and reject the irresponsible report published by a national newspaper. [end recording]